



CAR PARK FINES HOTSPOT NAMED

REPORT BY JORDAN HARRIS

ALMOST 500 fines were dished out to motorists in the Cannock Chase district netting more than £12,500 for the council in just three months.

New figures have revealed how many parking fines and penalty orders were issued in the area and also the car park where the most drivers got caught – Anglesey Street car park in Hednesford.

A total of 492 fines were issued over the three months from July to September this year. In the same period the council received £12,556.30, the figures show.

And this week the council revealed that most of the fines were given at the Anglesey Street car park in Hednesford town centre.

In March, the council introduced short stay and long stay spaces at the car park, which is behind the Co-op supermarket.

It is, however, also next to the train station and there were complaints cars were being left there all day by commuters.

The parking is now monitored and enforced by council civil enforcement officers.

Complaining

On rolling out the scheme, a spokesman said: "The introduction of the order will prevent vehicles from parking for an unlimited period of time in the short stay area, thus keeping spaces available for other visitors to the town centre."

Councillor Sheila Cartwright said: "People are obviously getting caught out leaving their cars in the short stay spaces following the change."

"I think it is a good thing as people were complaining about cars being left there all day while the drivers got on the train to go elsewhere."

The figures were revealed through a Freedom of Information request issued by comparethemarket.com

The insurance company has revealed the top areas in the West Midlands for handing out penalty notices and some of the key areas where the most drivers were likely to get fines.

The worst was Birmingham with more than 32,000 fines handed out while Wolverhampton dished out 22,961 penalty notices netting over £503,000. Victoria Square bus lane caught most drivers out and resulted in a fine.

In Walsall 5,632 fines were handed out while Stafford issued 1,185 with the Doxey Road East Bank car park being the hotspot area for parking fines.

MATT CAPTURES THE DETAILS OF WORKING LIFE



This painting by Matt Sayers called 'On Early Shift' evokes memories of Littleton Colliery, which was closed in December 1993

AN artist from Cannock is taking people back to the streets of their past in a new exhibition.

Industrial Staffordshire has been recaptured by Matt Sayers, complete with its pitheads and blanket of smoke.

Matt, aged 37, wants to help people reminisce with his new exhibition called Looking Back, on display at the Ancient High House in Stafford. His landscape oil paintings capture the daily lives of working class people around local streets from the 1950s to the 1970s.

They are full of terraced houses

with fires lit, people huddled around chip shops and children playing in the streets. Some of the streets are painted from his imagination but others will be recognisable as Cannock, Rugeley and Stafford.

He said: "It's all about the days gone by. I like to paint exhibitions where people say 'I remember when' and can reminisce about where houses used to be and what the streets look like now."

"I like to bring people to life on the streets with little details."

"It's the change of working life then compared to now which is

what I like. Everyone all had big black jackets, flat caps and neck scarves and plodded off to one location to do the job they would've done for years and that would have followed on from their father."

A warehouse manager by day, Matt loves to paint in the evening and wants to pursue art full-time.

He started painting at school and found his own style in his early 20s painting pets for people who admired his work.

Admission to the Stafford exhibition is free and it will go on until December 31.



Matt Sayers - 'change'

AWARD

Donor scheme honour goes to campaigner Jill

AN inspirational campaigner for sex attack victims has been honoured in a moving ceremony for donating her organs.

Jill Saward, from Hednesford, was the first rape victim to waive her right to anonymity after robbers broke into her home at a vicarage in London, in 1986, and raped her then seriously assaulted her father, Rev Michael Saward, and her boyfriend at the time.

The perpetrators received a relatively lenient sentence and her fierce campaigning led to direct changes in the law. Sadly, she died unexpectedly in January from a stroke at the age of 51.

Both of her kidneys were donated to men in their 40s.

As a result, her family were one of thousands across the country who received the Order of St John Award for Organ Donation which recognises 1,413 people who chose to sign up to the organ donor register.

Her husband Gavin Drake, 47, said: "We approached staff at the hospital about organ donation as we knew instinctively that Jill would want to become an organ donor." Her family received the award on her behalf at St Martin in the Bull Ring, in Birmingham.

● Tree – Page 3

POLICE

School stabbing rumours spread

RUMOURS of a knife attack on a 12-year-old at Cheslyn Hay High School have been dispelled by police.

The boy actually suffered a small wound to his back when a knife in his backpack cut him as he walked. A Staffordshire Police spokesperson said: "The boy will be going to Walsall Manor Hospital, but the injuries are not life threatening or life changing." The knife has been confiscated.

INSIDE

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MUSIC • THEATRE • PUZ PAGE 23

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2 CONTENTS

ANIMAL CRACKERS	4
LETTERS	8
CLUB NEWS	9
TV LISTINGS	26-27
PUZZLES PAGE	29
PROPERTY	30
MOTORING	38
SPORT	51-52

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Boss of M6 Toll has left the company



Andy Pearson – next project

THE boss of Midland Expressway, which runs the M6 Toll, has left the company.

Andy Pearson took over as chief executive in the summer of 2015, replacing Tom Fanning who had led Midland Expressway for more than 14 years.

Mr Pearson's departure comes six months after the UK's only pay-as-you-go motorway was bought by Australian investment group IFM.

Although it has never been revealed what IFM paid, the loss-making motorway had been up for sale with a price tag of almost £2 billion. In a statement

Midland Expressway said: "Andy Pearson was recruited to perform the role of interim CEO, primarily to steer the company through the process that resulted in the change of control to IFM Investors.

"He has now completed this successfully and has therefore concluded his role to go onto his next project.

"During his time, Andy successfully steered important operational development which resulted in a period of growth of users of the road.

"The company is now actively recruiting for the full-time role of CEO of the

business, although it is expected that this will take several months."

In the meantime, non-executive director Graham Parcell has taken over as acting chief executive.

He joined the board in 2013 and most recently led the project for the sale of the company on behalf of the board and the former lenders.

Mr Parcell said: "It's business as usual for us. The M6 Toll road is a world-class facility, and we are committed to continuing investment in it. It's great to see that more and more drivers are realising the benefits of using it."

1,300 in protest over plans for turkey farm

PLANS for a turkey farm near Penkridge with space for 20,000 birds has sparked a 1,300-name protest petition in 24 hours.

Holt Farms has lodged plans with South Staffordshire Council for four turkey-rearing buildings at Toft Farm in Levedale Road.

But a petition against the plans for the site gathered 1,300 signatures within 24 hours of being set up on Sunday.

Residents have raised concerns over the impact it will have on traffic, and health and safety, and have voiced concerns about animal cruelty.

Charlie Ward, of Coppenhall, set up the petition. She said: "It is very important that South Staffordshire Council listens to local residents' wishes when they object to farms such as this being built.

"There are many reasons why such a large number of people have signed in agreement."

Necessary

A demonstration has been organised for December 16 in Wolverhampton city centre against the plans.

No-one at Holt Farms was available to comment but a planning application put forward by Ian Pick Associates, a specialist agricultural planning consultant, on behalf of the firm, reads: "The reality of feeding the population of the UK in a sustainable way means that it is necessary for there to be construction of more modern, increasingly efficient buildings.

"Another social benefit of the scheme is that it provides employment security for local people who live in the countryside and in doing so helping to retain the vibrancy of the community." If approved, the plans will see two jobs created.

Councillor Isabel Ford, who represents the Penkridge North East and Acton Trussell ward, said: "I understand that people have decided to express their concern due to animal cruelty and we have also recently seen plans for a poultry farm approved in the area."

Strong turn-out for switch-on



Volunteers decorating the tree ahead of the switch-on

SCHOOLS, traders, local groups, members of the community and even Santa Claus turned out to see the Christmas lights switched on in Hednesford.

Market Street was closed off to traffic and lined with stalls, children's rides, entertainment and Santa's grotto.

The high street was packed for the event on Friday, which ran from 5pm until 8pm, with many of the businesses staying open for the event.

MP Amanda Milling and council members were among those at the night which included contributions from Hednesford Raceway, local



MP Amanda Milling with some of the characters on the night
Pictures: Friends of Hednesford Park

charities and performances from groups of schoolchildren.

Councillor and vice-chair of Hednesford in Partnership Paul Woodhead said: "The lights switch-on is our kick-off into Christmas for our town and bringing all the groups, businesses, schools and families together to celebrate the strength of our community, and is what Hednesford in Partnership is all about, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

"Thank you to everyone who helped make this a truly community Christmas."

The switch-on was part of a busy weekend for Hednesford with a

tree festival at St Peter's Church, an artisan market in the town and a carol service organised through Hednesford Town FC Supporters Association from Friday to Monday.

The Friends of Hednesford Park released a number of pictures from the event including setting up the large tree which was decorated with robins, hats and wreaths made by different community groups and schools.

On their Facebook page the group wrote: "Fabulous cooperation of organising the event and effort by so many different individuals to make this event happen."

Police name victim of fatal smash

A MAN who died after a six-vehicle crash in Cannock has been named as Neil Horbury. The 33-year-old from Shifnal died in hospital following the collision on the A460 Lodge Lane which involved four cars, a van and a heavy goods vehicle.

The crash happened at 6.50pm on November 22.

Mr Horbury was resuscitated by police and paramedics at the roadside, but later died after being taken to Royal Stoke University Hospital.

Anyone with information should call Staffordshire Police on 101 giving incident number 738 of 22 November or email ciu@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

A man in his 60s, who was the driver of another car, was taken to Walsall Manor Hospital. Two other drivers were assessed and discharged at the scene.



Neil Horbury

Advanta looks for aluminium artist

PACKAGING specialist Advanta is embarking on a charity project to raise money and awareness of Britain's food packaging waste problem.

The company is commissioning a 3D artist to create a sculpture from recyclable aluminium, which will then be sold at auction to raise funds for charity.

To begin the project, Advanta is calling for artists to get in touch to pitch their ideas.

The winning design will be funded by Advanta and created using aluminium from the company's manufacturing facility in Cannock.

To be considered as the contributing artist, call 01785 225416 or email laura@stonejunction.co.uk

Magic in the spotlight at flower club meeting

CHESLYN Hay & Great Wyrley flower club will be presenting a demonstration by Ann Gates titled The Magic of Christmas at 7.30pm today (Thursday).

Admission to the event at the Saleum Church Hall in Cheslyn Hay is £6.50 to include refreshments. Non-members are welcome. For further details go to cheslynhayandgreatwyrleyflowerclub.wordpress.com or call 01922 413782 or 01922 477928.

Teacher nominated

DAVID Barton of Lichfield has been nominated for the Musicians' Union Inspiration Award at the Music Teacher Awards for Excellence. He currently teaches over 40 students in his studio at his home at Scotch Orchard. The winner will be announced in February.

Block week holidays cancelled at hospital

CHRISTMAS holidays have been cancelled for all staff at Stafford's County Hospital in a bid to deal with winter pressure.

University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) has imposed a restriction, which usually applies only to nurses, meaning employees are prohibited from taking entire block weeks off over Christmas and New Year.

While the trust has implemented the move for some departments in the past it is the first time it has been applied to the entire staff of 11,000 including those at sister hospital Royal Stoke.

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "We have identified a number of specific actions that can be undertaken.

"This includes investing £2 million to create 45 new beds at the Royal Stoke, pausing non-urgent elective surgery for two weeks in early 2018, asking our staff not to take long holidays during the busiest periods and ensuring the maximum number of consultants are present on our wards to make decisions about what care patients need and when they can go home."

Stafford Borough Councillor Christine Baron, who is a member of the Stafford and Surrounds Patients Liaison Group, said: "It does seem unfair but it does go with the territory of working in the public sector."

Events at the Hub of festive season

THE Create Community Hub in Huntington will hold a service at 10am on Sunday which will feature carols and the chance for children to make their own traditional Christingle.

Then on December 21, the venue, which is the former Littleton Youth Centre in Stafford Road, will be showing Rise of the Guardians on its big screen at 1.30pm. Two days later, a Narnia-themed Christmas fair will take place between 4pm and 6pm.

The centre is hosting a lunch on Christmas Day.

Hub spokesman Steve Graham said: "We've had a fantastic year welcoming hundreds of local people to a wide range of events and activities.. We can't wait to open our doors this Christmas for our festive events."

£1k for tunnel bid

LICHFIELD and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust has been presented with £1,000 by the local branch of the Inland Waterways Association. The cash will be put towards building a tunnel under the Cross-City rail line.

Family still suffering sewage misery



Maria Bradley outside her home

A FAMILY claim they are continuing to face problems with sewage and flooding outside their home – almost two years after moving in.

Morris Homes unveiled its Hartherton Place development in Cheslyn Hay three years ago. But the estate has faced problems with sewage and flooding since opening.

The developer says the problems were rectified months ago but Darren and Maria Bradley, who live on the corner of New Horse Road, say they still face sewage smells most days.

The couple live in the house with

their children, twins aged 13 and one 14-year-old. Mr Bradley, 50, who works for West Midlands Ambulance Service, said sewage and waste paper often spilled out from a manhole in their front garden. He said: "We have been here for almost two years, and it has been a living nightmare.

"We face problems of sewage seeping out into our front garden."

Mr Bradley says the developer wants to carry out work in their front garden to alleviate the issue. But he wants it to move the sewage barrel below their front garden altogether.

The family, who had to wait more than a year to move into their home due to the issue, say they have not received any compensation.

South Staffordshire Council served a Breach of Condition Notice against the developer last year. The developer then submitted drainage plans as part of a formal application, but this was refused by the council.

The developer appealed and a decision is yet to be made by the Planning Inspectorate.

No-one at Morris Homes was available to comment.

Child killer play is off after families' protest

A PLAY about the notorious child killings on Cannock Chase has been cancelled following an emotional appeal from victims' families.

Peter Sidgwick, chairman of Tower Players, sparked uproar by announcing he had penned a production about murderer Raymond Morris, who was convicted of killing Christine Darby, aged seven from Caldmere in Walsall. Morris died at HMP Preston in 2014 aged 84.

He was also highly suspected to have claimed the lives of five-year-old Diane Tift, from Bloxwich, and Margaret Reynolds, six, from Aston, Birmingham, whose bodies were found nearby.

Their families spoke out against the play encouraging Mr Sidgwick to pull the plug on the production, which was to be staged at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock in May.

The 70-year-old former teacher said he was particularly moved after talking to Susan Upton, 63, who is Margaret Reynold's older sister. Mr Sidgwick said: "She was incredible. She spoke so movingly, she absolutely blew me away. I have told her that I am no longer going to proceed.

"I didn't feel I had any option. It is the right decision. Obviously, I thought it was a story of interest to the people of Cannock but it is not as important as the wishes of these people.

"I am profoundly sorry if I caused any upset to the families, it was never my intention. I simply wanted to tell a story worth telling."

Ms Upton said: "We are very relieved he is not going ahead. To him it's a story but to us it is our lives we live every single day.

"I just tried to get across how it affected us as a family and he was very responsive to that. "He hadn't realised and I don't think you can unless you have gone through it yourself."

Mr Sidgwick also spoke with Gemma Tift, 31 from Willenhall and the niece of Diane Tift, who had started a campaign to block the play, gaining more than 400 backers in two days. She also welcomed the decision.



Raymond Morris



A family photo of Jill Saward dressed as an elf in front of her tree at last year's festival Inset: This year's festival (picture by Richard Pursehouse)

Church tree in memory of Jill

A TREE decorated in memory of the sexual violence campaigner Jill Saward was on display at the Christmas Tree Festival in St Luke's Church in Cannock.

It is almost 11 months since Jill died unexpectedly in January after suffering a subarachnoid haemorrhage (stroke) at her home.

Jill was a member of St Luke's Church and regularly exhibited a tree at the festival to promote her campaign against sexual violence and also the hidden disability Ehlers Danlos Syndrome.

"Jill loved Christmas and would always have a tree at St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival," Jill Saward's widow Gavin Drake said.

"She would dress as an elf and remain at the church during the festival to chat with members of the public who came to see the trees. It was one of the ways she would bring joy to people.

"It was a difficult experience to decorate the tree. I could feel Jill's presence."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Deadline looms to claim childcare

THE deadline is fast approaching for parents to claim 30 hours a week of funded childcare.

Places are available from January 1 for children who celebrate their third birthday between September 1 and December 31, 2017.

To claim the funding parents must register at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk by December 31 but if they want everything in place for January they should also take the registration code and contact a childcare provider before the Christmas holidays to make arrangements. The 30 hours scheme was rolled out nationally after being trialled in Staffordshire in 2016-17.

Call for passenger payouts overhaul

MICHAEL Fabricant has urged government ministers to overhaul compensation schemes for hard-pressed rail passengers plagued by constant delays on their commute.

The Lichfield MP hit out at 'the scandal of persistent delays' on Britain's railways and said that season-ticket holders were being 'ripped off' on routes which were hit by regular hold-ups.

Passengers are entitled to compensation when they are held up for 30 minutes or more but there is no such scheme for persistent, shorter delays.

Crash man, 71, dies in hospital

A 71-YEAR-OLD man died following a road accident in Hedgesford.

Maurice Murcott from Cannock was found in cardiac arrest when ambulance crews arrived.

Paramedics restored a heartbeat and he was taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham in a critical condition but died the same day.

The incident involving a black VW Golf happened in Hill Street at 5.15pm on November 24. It was the only vehicle involved. A police spokesman said: "His family is being supported by specially trained officers."

Panto audiences are in for a 'mystical' treat

THE Lichfield Garrick says its production of Aladdin is the theatre's 'most mystical and fun-filled pantomime yet'.

Tickets are selling fast, and the theatre has added an extra week of performances to meet demand.

Aladdin opened last week and runs until January 6. Tickets starting at £14 for children and £23.50 for adults can be booked at www.lichfieldgarrick.com or on 01543 412121.

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COUNTY NEWS

Vinyl record sales to go above 1.5m

VINYL record sales at HMV shops, including those in Wolverhampton, Walsall and Brierley Hill, are on track to top 1.5 million this year. With Ed Sheeran's Divide topping the year's vinyl sales chart, it is a level of sales not achieved since the late 1980s.

Sales are strong across all genres including new releases and back catalogue titles, with the Gallagher brothers fighting it out in the HMV best seller list. Liam Gallagher's As You Were is currently second and Noel Gallagher's Who Built The Moon? third. HMV is on track to hold one third of the entire UK vinyl market by Christmas.

Slade star's show boosts charities

EX-SLADE musician Jim Lea's recent event at the Robin 2 in Bilston raised £6,300 for charity. Cash from the 68-year-old's An Audience With Jim Lea on November 5 will go to Cancer Research UK and Dementia UK.

The afternoon included the showing of a film of his first solo gig at the venue back in 2002 called For One Night Only and a question and answer session. Due to illness – he has been battling prostate cancer – Jim was unable to perform musically.

His John Birch bass was available to view in Woody's Bar and for a cash donation of £5 fans were able to hold the guitar and have photos taken with it.

Photos from music festival on display

MORE than 50 photographs taken as part of a popular jazz festival are on view for thousands of commuters at Birmingham New Street station.

The exhibition of photography which was run as part of this year's Birmingham, Solihull and Sandwell Jazz Festival is on display at the station during December and January.

The internationally renowned jazz festival returned for its 33rd year in July and featured 225 performances at 100 venues.

Marston's tops £1bn mark for the first time

MARSTON'S has unveiled its biggest ever profit and sales figures – and the group is set to keep on growing.

For the first time in its 127 years the Wolverhampton-based company's annual revenue has hit £1.01 billion, while pre-tax profits have soared 24 per cent to £100.3 million – another record. "We are aiming for more growth next year," chief executive Ralph Findlay said.



1. Tink often stops to say hello to Bob the goldfish



2. Teddy's confused between a dovecote and a dove cat



3. African pygmy hedgehog Flossy in her woolly nest



4. Bear loves to bite toes and chase around the garden



5. Tortoise Fred lives in the garden and just loves eating buttercups on the lawn



6. Bags of room in here – Benji finds this is a comfortable place to bed down



7. Together – four-year-old guinea pigs Billy and Tom share a very special bond



8. Reeves and Mortimer who were always up to mischief when they were kittens



9. Olaf the rabbit was found in a carrier bag in a tree. Here he is with best friend Anya



10. Milo, a Staffie cross, came from the Dogs Trust and loves doing agility tricks

LAST CHANCE TO VOTE

READERS just have a few more days to pick their favourite in our pets photo competition.

After weeks of being inundated with your treasured pictures of your beloved pets we ran the final shortlist for the first time last week, complete with a voting form for you to have your say on which one you think should win.

Creatures as diverse as cats, dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits, hedgehogs and tortoises have all featured in the popular competition, which has brought home just how much love owners have for their prized pets – with nearly 500 pictures emailed in.

Proud

We are repeating the voting form again this week. But it is the last chance for readers to make their choice as all entries need to be in by Tuesday (December 12).

There was so much choice from the entries submitted – and we appreciate the time taken by proud owners to take the snapshots of their pets – it was difficult for us to pick out the final 10 for the shortlist.

But now the time has come to make a decision.

To vote for your favourite photograph either email the picture number to sue.attwater@expressandstar.co.uk or tick one box on this form and send it to Sue Attwater, The Chronicle, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

PICTURE 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	PICTURE 6 <input type="checkbox"/>
PICTURE 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	PICTURE 7 <input type="checkbox"/>
PICTURE 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	PICTURE 8 <input type="checkbox"/>
PICTURE 4 <input type="checkbox"/>	PICTURE 9 <input type="checkbox"/>
PICTURE 5 <input type="checkbox"/>	PICTURE 10 <input type="checkbox"/>

We are not just looking for the cutest pet – though they do all fit that description – but the best picture itself, one that you would pick out if you saw it in the paper.

The winner will be announced later this month with the best-loved picture being carried on the

front of our Christmas editions. There is also a £100 cash prize up for grabs.

So please look closely at the 10 shortlisted pictures and choose the one you think deserves the prize and we will be counting up the votes next week.

Winners in Best retail competition announced

THE winners of the Cannock Chase Best Local Shops & Market Stalls competition have been announced.

There were nine awards up for grabs, with shops, market stalls and cafés/restaurants in Cannock, Rugeley and Hednesford competing.

This year a new category was introduced – the overall winner award – for the retailer gaining the most votes in total, which was won by Lachmere Fashions of Brook Square, Rugeley.

The winners in each district were:

RUGELEY
Café/restaurant – Made With Love Tea Rooms; Shop – Lachmere; Market – Meat to Please You.

CANNOCK
Café/restaurant – Caffè del Nino; Shop – Bathaholics; Market – The Rug Stall.

HEDNESFORD
Café/restaurant – Bella's Coffee House; Shop – Jabu Hair Studio.

The winners were announced by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling as part of Small Business Saturday.

She said: "I would like to congratulate each of the winners in this year's competition. I hope the winners enjoy their early Christmas present."

"Each of the winners asked me to thank their customers for voting for them. Commiserations to the businesses who didn't win this year, but as always, the competition was well fought by local businesses, and we have eight very worthy winners."

Small Business Saturday UK is a campaign, which highlights small business success and encourages consumers to 'shop local'.

The day itself takes place on the first Saturday in December each year.

Alert on offer of 'stolen' generator

A MAN has been reported trying to sell a suspected stolen generator in Cannock.

People at two addresses in the town have said a man fitting the same description approached their homes trying to offload the expensive machinery.

He is described as being of broad build, with short blond hair, and in his late 30s. He spoke with an Irish accent.

Police say he has called at homes in Johnson Road and Strathmore Place.

He was asking if people wanted to buy the generator, which he said was in the back of his car, a silver Mitsubishi Shogun.

Residents have been advised to report any sightings of the man to them on the non-emergency number 101.

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Year profits at delivery firm grow 31pc to £3m

CANNOCK-BASED APC Overnight has delivered a strong trading performance set against a challenging marketplace.

The company has recorded 31 per cent year-on-year growth in profits to £3 million for the financial year, delivering 0.8 per cent growth in total revenue to £103m.

In the past year, the delivery firm has provided ongoing investment across its unique network model to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) succeed in a turbulent economic climate.

The company, which has 112 locations nationwide, has introduced six new services to help SME customers, including a new click-and-collect service, an intuitive mobile booking and tracking app and an international delivery partnership with Air Menzies International.

Chief executive officer Jonathan Smith said: "Despite challenging market conditions, we've had a strong year.

"We've introduced a range of new services so that our network of depots can better serve their SME customers. "Our investment in the business has meant that we're closer than ever to our customers."

APC Overnight says it has ambitious plans for further investment in 2018, committing funds to its IT systems, property, fleet and employees.

Think of others – church leader

THE leader of the Cannock congregation of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints has used his Christmas message to urge people to find time for others.

Bishop Mark Gilbert says: "Christmas isn't just about tinsel and ribbon.

"Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is the time we realise most deeply that the more love is expended, the more there is of it for others.

"We would like to invite the local community to our Christmas carol service at 136 New Penkridge Road, Cannock on Sunday, December 24 from 10am to 11am, with hot chocolate and mince pies afterwards."

Group's next walk

CHASE Ramblers' walk this Sunday is an eight-mile moderate walk on Cannock Chase, meeting at Hednesford railway station car park for a 9am departure. Call Dev or Helen on 07772 581457. New walkers welcome.

Festival challenge to budding writers

BUDDING story writers are putting pen to paper for a chance to be part of the second Wolverhampton Literature Festival.

The Chronicle's sister paper, the Express & Star, has launched a short-story writing competition as part of the festival – to be headlined by award-winning author Will Self – and is already seeing the fruits of readers' labours.

The literature festival has a programme of more than 80 events taking place at 16 venues across the city from Thursday, January 25 until Sunday,

January 28 – and our winner will be part of it.

A panel of judges will decide the winner who will have their story printed in the Express & Star. And they will also have their story read out at the festival by award-winning local author Paul Dowswell.

He will read the story at Wolverhampton Art Gallery following his talk with fellow writer Ian Billings entitled Writing for Fun and Profit on January 28 between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

To enter the competition, writers can submit a story on any subject or

theme of around 1,200 words. The story must be an original piece of fiction and not an account of real events.

The deadline for the competition is January 6.

Email your short stories to karen.baker@expressandstar.co.uk or post them to Editor's Secretary Karen Baker, Express & Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

That competition is for over-16s, although a Young Authors competition is already running for key stage 2 and 3 schoolchildren as part of the festival and run by The Imaginarium

on behalf of the city council. The winning entries will be turned into stage productions and performed during the festival.

In addition, there is a poetry competition with a £400 first prize organised by Write Out Loud. The competition will have the theme 'Out of darkness cometh light'.

The winner will also have the opportunity to read at an awards event as part of the festival.

For more details and the full programme line-up go to the website at wolverhamptonliteraturefestival.co.uk

Excitement mounts as town lottery relaunched

THE return of the Hednesford Community Lottery has been hailed by organisers as an 'exciting development for the town'.

Tickets for the fundraising draw, organised and managed by Hednesford in Partnership (HiP), will be sold at locations throughout the town and supported by various partners in the community.

They can be bought for £1 wherever there is a sign, and proceeds will support investment in local projects and events.

The prize fund will be 50 per cent of the amount raised from the tickets sold, and the other 50 per cent will be used to fund events and developments within the town as decided by the partner organisations of Hednesford in Partnership.

A draw will take place on the second Saturday of the month, with the first taking place in Hednesford Library at 10am on January 13.

Production of the tickets is sponsored by local businesses to ensure it is as low-cost as possible, and the Pets R4Us dog walking service is sponsoring the first draw.

Any businesses or organisations that would like to sponsor a future month can contact Hednesford in Partnership directly.

HiP chair Robin Kingston said: "This is a hugely exciting time for Hednesford, and bringing a community lottery to the town is an integral part of our delivery of the plan developed by the community for two, five and 10 years.

"We hope everyone will get behind the lottery and purchase their monthly ticket from outlets across the town with a chance to win our first prize in the knowledge that more events and projects for our town will be funded by the generosity of everyone."

Draw details and further information will be made available at <https://www.facebook.com/HednesfordinPartnership/>

Impact award for activities project



The Chase Active Friday team and visitors with the Community Impact award at Chase Leisure Centre

A SPORTS activities project in Cannock has been recognised at an annual awards ceremony.

Chase Active Friday was launched by Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles (IHL) three years ago and since then has clocked up more than 6,000 attendances.

Now, the scheme has taken top honours in the Community Impact category of the Sport Across Stafford and Stoke-On-Trent (SASSOT) Awards seek to high-

light all the great things going on in sport and physical activity. And this year, Chase Active Friday took top honours in the awards' Community Impact category.

Based at Chase Leisure Centre, the project includes trampolining, swimming, dance, cycling, fitness sessions, and golf.

Each week up to 60 people with a range of disabilities meet up for a full day of activities.

Paul Smith, IHL's wellbeing

Lead in Cannock, said: "The inspiration for Chase Active Friday came initially from the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

"The Chase Sportability Group held its own Flame Celebration event and as part of this got a lot of feedback saying there needed to be more accessible activities for disabled adults." Chase Active Friday will now take part in the West Midlands Community Sports Awards today (Thursday).

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wildlife centre in cafe funds appeal

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust is running a Christmas Challenge to raise funds for a cafe and modernisation of its headquarters.

The Wolseley Centre at Wolseley Bridge opened almost 15 years ago and needs better facilities for visitors. The centre runs at a cost to the trust and introducing a cafe will help to generate a new source of income.

The trust plans to create a multi-functional space, also incorporating a shop and visitor welcome area, and make improvements to wildlife habitat and visitor infrastructure outside.

To support the project visit thebiggive.org.uk/projects/view/27371

Thousands flock to annual market

A RECORD number of people attended this year's Penkridge Victorian Christmas Market.

Thousands flocked to the annual festive event, with organisers saying it was the busiest in its history.

Stallholders dressed in Victorian costumes and decorated their stalls.

Prizes went to Nicky Williams and Paul and Julia Baker for best costumes, while Banyan Tree's Ann Fulford and Jane Sutherland won the prize for best decorated stall.

A fine food and craft market will take place at the site on December 16.

Delight over £19k grant for exercise

A CHARITY for older people is celebrating after being given a £19,000 donation.

Age UK South Staffordshire has received the cash from the Morrisons Foundation, a charity set up by the supermarket chain.

The cash will go towards delivering gentle exercise activities including graded walks for local people who are aged 50 and over.

Susan Blower, from Age UK South Staffordshire, said: "We are excited about the grant, which will enable us to provide quality exercise activities."

New gym will make a 'positive contribution'

DEVELOPERS behind a scheme to turn a former Tesco Express into a gym and two shops say it 'will make a positive contribution to the locality, economy and community'.

An application to redevelop the site in Cannock Road, Chase Terrace, has been submitted to Lichfield District Council. Birmingham-based Taylor Grange Developments say it will be a welcome addition to the area alongside the McDonald's at the site.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Fairytale complaint just load of nonsense

SARAH Hall has asked for the fairytale Sleeping Beauty to be banned from her son's school, in case it corrupts the six-year-old's mind. She is particularly unhappy that the handsome prince kisses the heroine while she is asleep.

"It's a specific issue about sexual behaviour and consent," she says.

Perhaps it's me, but don't these people have dirty minds? The story has been read to children for the past 700 years, yet no-one else has seen it as being about sexual behaviour and consent.

It does make one think about how many classic fairytales are acceptable in today's puritanical, politically-correct society.

Hansel and Gretel is obviously out. For a start they live in a house made of marzipan and sugar, hardly conducive to a healthy diet. And the "wicked step-mother" does not reflect how society is enriched by today's diverse range of family types. And surely you can't go around pushing witches into the oven, can you? A hate crime at the very least.

Then there's Little Red Riding Hood. I mean what sort of mother allows their young daughter to go walking on her own through the woods? That's a surefire case of child neglect. And the bit about killing the wolf? Animal cruelty at the very least.

As for Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, well where do we begin? Dwarfism, modern slavery, and it is sure to put children off getting their five a day. Just don't go there.

□ □ □

NEW figures revealing how much money local councils make from car parking charges make fascinating reading.

Dudley Council took £435,000 last year, Sandwell Council £430,000, Walsall £492,000 and Wolverhampton £1.4 million. Sounds a lot but look at it another way. The figures amount to £1.40 per head per year in Dudley and Sandwell, about £1.80 a year in Walsall and about £5.50 in Wolverhampton. Given the choice, I'm sure most people would sooner pay an extra couple of quid a year on the council tax than have to fiddle with a pay-and-display meter every time they go shopping, and stress over whether their ticket will expire before the baddie in the silly uniform comes round to dish out the fines.

The £435,000 Dudley made is also little more than a seventh of the money the council spent on the questionable market place refurbishment a few years ago.

The landlord is no longer there to sort things out



Meghan Markle – majority of the public don't care about her being mixed-race



Dame Glynis Breakwell's downfall is an object lesson in the power of free speech



Dickensian – the second-best costume drama the BBC has ever made but too brief

Housing ladder can lead to new troubles

THERE is a myth among millennials that once you are on the housing ladder all your troubles end. So it was illuminating to come across a column a few days ago by a first-time buyer who admits: "When it's your name on the mortgage, the buck stops with you . . . you'll never have any money ever again." There followed a bleak tale of things going wrong and a dodgy tradesman relieving him of £1,000. That's how it is, kids. Owning your own place brings some security but much expense, and the words "the landlord will sort it out" vanish like a comfort blanket chucked in a bin.

A READER tells me he has heard one American reporter referring to "Prince Hairy." Expect more of the same. The US and UK are two nations divided by a common language. The Yanks also have a strange approach to names. On a trip to Texas in the 1980s, I had great difficulty convincing our hosts that no-one in England ever referred to the Prince of Wales and his wife as Chuck and Di.

AM I hopelessly out of touch, or am I right in thinking that the vast majority of the Great British Public don't give a flying fig about Meghan Markle being mixed-race? We have surely moved on from all this. We may not yet be the ultimate colour-blind society but we are getting there. So what possible motive lies behind an outburst such as this, from the Guardian, that greeted Monday's engagement announcement: "From Victoria and Abdul to Harry and Meghan Markle, our society is still obsessed with 'purity' and is shocked that a royal could marry a per-

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



son of colour." I'm not sure what the Guardian means by "our society" or "purity" but it's not the society I recognise and it's not the society where I and most Brits live, or would wish to live.

THE Church of Sweden is urging its clergy to use gender-neutral language and avoid referring to God as "He." There is a tiny theological problem here, namely that Jesus repeatedly refers to God as male. I haven't counted this myself but I am told in John's Gospel alone, Jesus calls God "Father" no fewer than 156 times, which seems pretty conclusive. Still, when the gender-police are in full cry, who would dare to suggest that the New Testament might be gospel?

YOU can get away with being paid £486,000 a year if you work in a bank or stock exchange where everybody else earns £486,000. You will stride together in one vast, elevated herd, like giraffes on the savannah. However, if you are earning £486,000 and everyone around you earns a tiny fraction of that amount, you become like one isolated giraffe in a herd of snappy little mongooses (mongeese?). Eventually, the little creatures will gang up on you, bite your ankles and bring you crashing down. Dame Glynis Breakwell has quit as vice-chancellor at the University of Bath. Her downfall is

an object lesson in the awesome power of free speech, a free press, natural justice and, above all, envy. I predict a sudden drop in the number of vice-chancellors asking for a wage rise.

BUT don't shed too many tears. Breakwell is not resigning in the sense that you or I might understand. She will not stand down until next August and will then spend the following six months on what you and I call a paid holiday but academia calls a sabbatical.

THE Government was apparently surprised at the initial lack of outrage about Britain having to pay £50 billion or so to leave the EU. I suspect this is because many years of indifferent education have created a nation which doesn't really know what 50 billion is. Adding to the confusion is the fact that many older folk were taught in their schooldays that a billion was a million million. So own up. Is 50 billion 50,000,000,000, 50,000,000 or 50,000,000,000,000? And how many million zeros can you get on the side of a bus?

DICKENSIAN, screened over the last festive period, was probably the second-best costume drama the BBC has ever made. Its only flaw was to be shown in brief 30-minute episodes which hardly gave you time to settle down with a glass of port and a muffin to enjoy the Victorian ambience. Netflix is now reshooting the series but has edited them into chunky and very satisfying one-hour episodes. Excellent.

TALKING POINT



Just one tweet away from the vilest abuse

THE internet has transformed society since we said farewell to the 20th century, but at what cost?

Has social media made Britain a more cohesive country? Have we entered a new golden age where reunited friends and digitally connected communities work for the common good?

Or have we plummeted into a new dark age inhabited by hate-filled trolls, Z-list bloggers and clickbait content that appeals to the darker impulses.

If you use social media you are only ever one ill-judged Tweet away from a torrent of hate from those who seek the slightest pretext, usually an expression of opinion they do not agree with, to spew out the vilest abuse and threats.

Pornography has become easily available and degraded many. Yes, there are parental controls, but any curious kid can get round those and it only takes one in a peer group to show such images to their mates. It's actually changed the mainstream, so programmes like Love Island can flourish and some think it's actually funny to buy their pre-teen daughter a T-shirt with the slogan Future Porn Star.

The new Wiki-world offering a wealth of free information was supposed to make us better informed but instead many seem content to live in a bubble, only listening to views that chime with their own opinions and prejudices.

Meanwhile, the Tweeter in chief, a self-promoting self-obsessed New York property developer whose brand was enhanced by a reality TV show, has been propelled into the White House by a wave of hyperlinked hyperbole – allegedly with the help of considerable social media manipulation from the Kremlin. Trump is the ultimate icon of this new age of narcissism.

Take a look around... families sat at dinner tables staring at their phones rather than speaking to each other, people apparently talking to themselves whilst walking down the street, even having animated loud arguments with people who are not physically present. It looks weird because it is weird.

Meanwhile, the internet giants get richer by stealing your information, dodging taxes and siphoning away revenue from traditional media (including local newspapers).

I know you can't put the digital genie back in the bottle but we've got to consider where this is taking us before Trump is trumped by something even more dangerous.

LEON BURAKOWSKI

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Well, (some) shoppers think the rink is n-ICE!



Heartened – Three Spires Shopping Centre manager Lisa Prokopiou on the ice

SHOPPERS are backing an ice rink in Lichfield despite adverse publicity over its size.

It is the first time the Three Spires Shopping Centre has had its own synthetic ice rink but when a reporter visited the rink, which measures 100 square metres, one passer-by even made a dig on its size by asking: "What rink?"

But other shoppers were more generous, saying the rink – with its mini penguins for learners to hold onto – is good for children.

Kerry Ball, aged 67, from Cannock said: "I think it's something nice for Lichfield."

"Well, it's never been done before, so I think the kiddies will like it."

"It is probably a bit small for adults to go whizzing around but I think it is nice. Very festive as well with all the trees around."

Dawn Hunt, 66, from Lichfield, said: "I have seen that it had some bad press but I like it because they made the effort."

Graham Woolich, 71, from Lichfield, said: "This had a bit of adverse publicity at the beginning. But looking at it now, it looks good for youngsters to skate."

Shoppers who spend £20 in the centre can redeem their receipts and have free skating sessions for two. Alternatively, non-shoppers can pay £3 for a 20-minute session, and 30 people can safely skate at one time. Centre manager Lisa Prokopiou said: "We are aware of the negative comments."

"But we have been hugely heartened by the wealth of support and comments from shoppers and parents who have enjoyed this festive free activity." The rink is open from 1.30 to 8.30pm Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays until December 23.



Kerry Ball of Cannock – 'very festive'



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Mess near gallery is disgusting

HAVING attended the fine exhibitions in Walsall's New Art Gallery I am prompted to air my disgust at the residents of the town and Walsall Council for leaving the surrounds in such a disgraceful state.

The entrance to the gallery has unsightly graffiti greeting any visitors and then, should any of them decide to take refreshment in Costa, they are obliged to 'enjoy' their refreshments whilst looking out onto a sea of litter in the canal basin.

Walsall, it is a disgrace and embarrassment. Residents, you should be ashamed for creating it. Council, you should be ashamed for not clearing it up. What an eyesore. What a turn-off for visitors.

VANCE LUPTON
Walsall

Help to give star pets a fighting chance

THIS Christmas please spare a thought for the thousands of much-loved pets requiring life-saving vet treatment.

While most pets will enjoy spending extra time at home with their families, not all are so lucky.

Every December, pet wellbeing charity PDSA cares for 50,000 pets in need.

Without our dedicated vet teams, many of these pets would have no

where else to go. For 100 years, we've been helping provide critical care and emergency surgery for pets that urgently need us. Demand for our vital services never stops.

Every pet is a star in our eyes, and we want to give them all a fighting chance. When PDSA saves a pet, another family stays together. But we can only continue helping with your

support. Animal lovers can help our #SaveAStar campaign at www.pdsa.org.uk/star or by texting STAR to 70020 to give a one-off donation of £5 (you'll also be charged one standard rate message).

From all of the pets you'll help to save this Christmas, thank you.

NICOLA MARTIN
PDSA senior vet

Stamps are of value to our charity

I WANTED to appeal to readers to ask them to donate their used stamps to Kidney Care UK.

Every Christmas, more than one billion cards are sent in the UK, and for every 1kg of used stamps donated we can raise as much as £20 to help people with chronic kidney disease.

There are 64,000 people being treated for kidney failure in the UK right now and 103 people are currently waiting for a transplant in Staffordshire. Your support will help us to provide practical, financial and emotional support for kidney patients and their families.

You can read and download our guide to collecting and donating used stamps at www.kidneycareuk.org

PADDY TABOR
Kidney Care UK

Please support heart research funding bid

AS A Professor of Congenital Heart Surgery and Consultant in Cardiothoracic Surgery at the University of Bristol, I see first-hand how devastating it is for thousands of families who have a child living with congenital heart disease.

Each year around 4,000 children in the UK are diagnosed with a congenital heart defect but sadly an estimated 400 of those children won't survive until school age.

Through my research, I am trying to improve surgical techniques and find a way to stop the hearts of babies and children becoming damaged during heart surgery.

Without funding from the BHF, my team and I couldn't continue our vital work. That's why I am supporting the BHF's Christmas Appeal which aims to raise £750,000 towards research. For more details visit christmas.bhf.org.uk

PROFESSOR MASSIMO CAPUTO
University of Bristol

Housing out of reach

IF the houses that eventually will be built between Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay were social housing, I cannot see any objection ("Greenbelt homes battle won but war goes on", November 30). Building unaffordable housing does very little to help the young of the two villages. Saying money will be spent on Teddesley Hall is like saying to me that Blackpool Tower will benefit from this project.

ROGER ALLEN
Great Wyrley

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a

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story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES



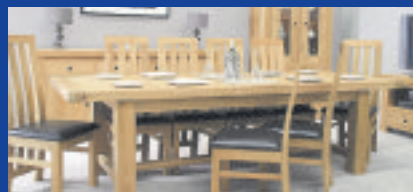
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Severe form of illness is highlighted

SI Cannock & District

ACTION on Postpartum Psychosis (APP) is one of the charities being highlighted this year by president Val Jones. It is a small and little known charity; in fact, prior to president Val naming it only three club members had heard of it.

The condition is the most severe form of post-natal mental illness and is actually as common as Down's Syndrome. One of the charity's aims is to raise public awareness of the condition.

APP is run by health experts and by those who have suffered from the condition. They have 700 members.

Volunteer Jocelyn Ellams, who suffered from the condition herself following the birth of her son, gave a most interesting, emotional and enlightening presentation. She bravely told her story and made it possible for everyone to have some understanding of the dreadful experiences she had at that time – and also proved she has completely recovered.

Soroptimist Kate Young thanked Joss her for giving up her time and, more importantly, for her honesty in talking about how she was affected. She gave Joss a donation towards the work of APP from SI Cannock and told her that at the end of president Val's year there would be a further donation.

More about APP can be found at www.app-network.org and about the Soroptimists at www.sigbi.org/cannock-and-district or on Facebook.

Choir cheques in to aid defibrillator fund



Elizabeth George from Ta Rowdles hands the cheque to president Sue Owens, left, and another woman, right. The cheque is for £400.00 from the Hammerwich WI.

SEPTEMBER and October were exceptionally busy months for Hammerwich WI. The speaker for September was Helen Bradin who gave an informed account of 'a day in the life of a solicitor'. The competition was for the best baked muffins. The winner, Ann Riddell, was awarded the Pamela Taylor Rose Bowl, held each year in memory of a much loved member.

President Sue Owens launched several community projects including making knitted/crocheted octopi to help premature babies; twiddle muffs for dementia patients and 'Baby Bear', a scheme to make blankets, matinee jackets etc for babies born to abused women in a South African hospital.

Speaker's talk a real pearl-er

The speaker for November was George Hook on 'Mother of Pearl'. This was very interesting and amusing.

George purchases his shells from countries including Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico. Members could handle items such as spoons,

Hednesford A TG

cutlery, belt buckles, and were able to purchase items.

The vote of thanks was given by Joy Hayward. The Christmas outing is booked for Alveston Hall, Nant-

Hammerwich WI

Fundraisers included a pub games night and a quiz, towards a defibrillator for the WI hall. Another success was the Macmillan coffee morning.

The October meeting welcomed public speaker Lorna D. Sheldon. Elizabeth George and the Ta Rowdles choir presented a £400 cheque to president Sue for the defibrillator fund. A bring and share supper of homemade casseroles and apple pie and custard was served at the Harvest supper, followed by a beetle drive.

wich, on December 14 for a three-course meal and pantomime.

The guild celebrates its 20th birthday on December 11 with a party, and will be entertained with a variety of Christmas carols and songs by the TG choir.

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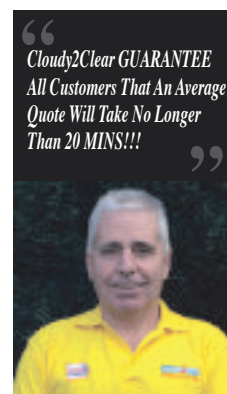
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Popular pub open again after refurb

THE Trafalgar in Hednesford has been open following a refurbishment.

The popular pub in Littleworth Road, run by Michelle Milner and James Felton, was officially re-launched by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling. The Trafalgar's Jordan Dewhurst has been nominated for the national Best Pub Chef Awards.

Former bank is to go under hammer

THE Grade II listed former NatWest Bank in Market Square, Rugeley, is to be sold at auction.

The three-storey building, which shut on September 27, is included in a property auction at Villa Park on December 14. The Rugeley lot joins eight other former NatWest Bank branches from across the Midlands in the sale.

Band and singers in festive concert

THE Staffordshire Band will again join with St Stephen's Choir of Cannock to present Music For Christmas.

The 'real celebration of the festive season' will be on Friday, December 22 at 7.30pm at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock.

Tickets are £5 available from choir members or by calling 01543 577348.

Superfast hits 95pc

NINETY FIVE per cent of Staffordshire households and businesses can now get superfast fibre broadband. The milestone was confirmed by the county council and BT Group, which spearhead Superfast Staffordshire.

Pupils log on for open-air lessons



Pupils from Queen's Croft School try out their new outdoor classroom

A TREE that came down in a hurricane has been put to good use by Queen's Croft School in Lichfield.

Back in October, a mature willow in Beacon Park's woodland blew down during Hurricane Ophelia.

Students from Queen's Croft School visited the park last month to choose the best logs, which they helped to load into a truck.

They later placed the logs in a circle to create an outdoor classroom in their school's woodland area.

The school has been working with Lichfield District Council's parks team since September last year.

Student volunteers help the rangers and gardeners twice a week with conservation and gardening tasks, as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Park Ranger Peter Freeman said: "We really appreciate all the hard work our student volunteers put into Beacon Park, so it's great that we could help the school by donating the logs."

"The rest of the tree will be left to create excellent deadwood habitat for invertebrates."

To find out more about volunteering for Beacon Park go to www.lichfieldhistoricparks.co.uk

Deals worth Cool £1.5m

AN air conditioning firm is celebrating contracts worth more than £1.5 million, which were won in just one month.

Installation specialist Coolair Equipment's Cannock office, where it employs nine office staff and seven engineers, is set to carry out the record set of deals for a hotel and conference centre, a retail head office refurbishment and two retirement villages.

Its success comes weeks after installing a state-of-the-art comfort cooling system for a new vehicle operations centre in Warwickshire for an unnamed leading Midland motor manufacturer.

Coolair is now to provide an energy saving and carbon-reducing cooling and heating system for a new 172-bed hotel and conference centre for the University of Birmingham, scheduled to open by next summer.

Coolair regional director Neil Gibbard said: "Having just completed a successful automotive project, winning four major orders worth a total of £1.5m in only one month represents a fantastic new sales record for our Midlands operation."

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Groups celebrate £15k aid from town council

CLUBS and organisations in Burntwood have received grants totalling £15,000 from the town council.

Cheques were presented at the Grant Aid presentation evening at Burntwood Memorial Institute.

Council chairman Councillor Pam Stokes thanked them for the valuable part they all play in the community.

The following organisations received grants:

1st Burntwood Girls' Brigade £250; 1st Burntwood Guides £250; 1st Burntwood Scout Group £250; 1st Chasetown Boys' Brigade £200; 2nd Burntwood Boys' Brigade £200;

Active 60s Group £150; AFC Burntwood Football Club £200; Burntwood Breast Care £250; Burntwood Carers £150; Burntwood Dragons and Phoenix Football Club £600;

Burntwood Family History Group £120; Burntwood Gardening Guild £150; Burntwood Lions Club £750; Burntwood Live at Home Scheme £150; Burntwood Memorial Community Association £250;

Burntwood Pandas £250; Burntwood St Matthews Cricket Club £250; Burntwood Singers £100; Burntwood Swimming Club £250; Burntwood YFC £200;

Chase Terrace Bowls Club £180; Chase Terrace Technology College £1,500; Chase-water Strollers £250; Citizens Advice South East Staffordshire £3,500;

Emmanuel Church New Life Centre £350; Free Spirit Horse Memorial £50; Fun Club £300;

Fusion Credit Union Ltd £300; Gartmore Riding School RDA Group £250; Hammer-wich Cricket Club £100; Hazelwood Bowls Club £150;

Horizon Single Parent Support Group £250; Ladybirds Parent and Toddler Group £200; Little Lambs Toddler Group £250; Lunch Bunch Burntwood £150; Midday Mayhem Group £150; Midland Soccer Academy £250; Read it Make it Group £250;

Redwood Friendship Club £50; St Giles Hospice £300; St John's Community Church £300; SSFA £200; Spark Burntwood £500; Spark Springhill Grandparents' Group £250.



Grant Aid cheques were presented at Burntwood Memorial Institute

Donation by Co-op staff

OLDER people will benefit to the tune of nearly £3,000 presented by Chase Terrace Co-operative Travel.

MHA's Burntwood Live at Home Scheme, which combats loneliness and helps keep older people independent, has been the nominated charity of the Burntwood agency for two years.

The five members of staff raised the money through customer donations, quiz nights and other activities and have also been volunteering at Scheme activities such as the lunch club. Services offered by Burntwood

Live at Home Scheme include outings, a friendship group, lunch clubs, dementia day care, and a craft group.

Scheme manager Caroline Roberts said: "They're a great bunch to work with and we're very grateful for their support."

Chase Terrace Co-operative Travel manager Elaine Edge said: "We always have a nominated charity. One of our customers suggested the Live at Home Scheme and, when we found out what a brilliant job it does, we were only too pleased to support it."

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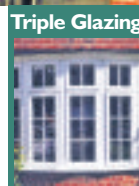
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Schools forum forges links with businesses

CHASE Chamber held its eighth Schools Forum at the Jaguar Land Rover engine manufacturing centre on the i54 site.

The sold-out event saw schools and business representatives in attendance with the aim of creating stronger links between education and enterprise for the benefit of young people.

Guest speaker Julie Poppleton, from Chase Terrace Technology College, gave an overview of best practice careers advice, and how businesses and schools can better engage with one another.

Ms Poppleton, head of careers, employability, enterprise, advice and guidance at the college, said: "This forum gives a perfect opportunity for employers and educators to network, engage, collaborate and learn from each other."

Contacted

"I was delighted to be asked to be keynote speaker. It gave me the opportunity of sharing our journey, positive impacts and outcomes achieved and best practice."

"I have already been contacted by some of the delegates with the view of meeting up to see how we can best work together."

Delegates also heard an opening address from Kelly Steadman-Hope, manager of JLR's Education Business Partnership Centre.

Chris Plant, director at the Chamber, said: "Since our launch of the Southern Staffordshire Schools Forum in September 2014 we have seen encouraging signs that schools within our area are willing to open their doors to local businesses."

"Skills are the number one priority for most businesses within the Chase area."

"It is important that more businesses increase their interaction with schools, their young people and staff in a way that benefits all parties in the future employability after full-time education."

Wearing it well for charity



Year 6 children at their stall, with cakes donated by parents

YOUNGSTERS in Cheslyn Hay had fun raising more than £400 for Children In Need.

Glenthorne Primary School pupils paid £1 to wear non-uniform, with many in spotted clothing.

Year 6 pupils sold Pudsey Bear badges, while the hall at the Glenthorne Drive school was set up for the children to play games

and competitions, including a tin can alley, penalty shoot-out and treasure map. All the children were given a go at running the stalls.

Competition winners were announced in a celebration assembly and prizes given out. The total amount raised was £417.50.

Year 5 pupil Phoebe Marson said: "It was great fun."

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More than 170 guns handed in to police



Supt Carl Ratcliffe with some of the weapons

MORE than 170 guns have been handed in to Staffordshire Police during a two-week firearms amnesty. Police stations in Cannock and Stafford were among the collection points.

The 176 guns surrendered included 76 shotguns, 33 rifles, 27 handguns, 30 air weapons and 10 de-activated or blank weapons. There were also 28 lots of ammunition handed in, including seven lots of shotgun cartridges.

The force is now checking ballistic records to see if any of the weapons are linked to crimes. It is the second time Staffordshire Police has participated in the national amnesty, after more than 200 guns were handed in during 2014.

Superintendent Carl Ratcliffe, based in Cannock, said: "We are fortunate to have very low levels of gun crime in Staffordshire, with just 44 firearms offences in the last 12 months. However, we remain vigilant.

"Although the surrender is over, if you didn't get around to handing yours in or you discover one in the future, please call 101 to arrange for us to collect it safely."

Attacker's open prison plea to be discussed

A VIOLENT prisoner locked up again within weeks of being released on licence from a life sentence for bottling a doorman is hoping for a move to an open prison.

Gareth Vigrass was 22 when he was handed a life sentence in 2002 for seriously injuring Cannock bouncer Richard Gosling in a savage attack.

He was ordered to serve a minimum of four years for wounding with intent but Vigrass, formerly of Stafford, was released in March last year.

However, he was then arrested – and subsequently jailed – for another assault.

Last December, the parole board recommended that Vigrass should remain in custody.

But he took his case to the High Court because of a failure to decide whether or not he could be moved to an open prison.

Ruling in his favour, Judge Jonathan Swift QC ordered the parole board to consider his case again and decide whether he can now be safely held in an open prison.

"Whether or not he was

By Marion Brennan

ready to be transferred to open conditions is a matter the Secretary of State for Justice referred to the parole board," he said.

"The parole board realised that issue was within the scope of the referral but, I suspect through oversight, did not address that issue in the course of its decision letter.

"That being so, the parole board fell into error by failing to comply with the Secretary of State for Justice's request for an opinion on whether he was ready to move to open conditions," Judge Swift added.

Vigrass's case will now be reconsidered by the parole board to see if he can be transferred.

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FOCUS ON RUGELEY

£20k grant puts firm on a concrete footing



Neil Wilkinson, left, of Urban Access with Anthony Carden, managing director of S4J Ltd

ARMITAGE company S4J Ltd has been awarded a Business Development Programme grant of £20,000 – the second handout in 12 months.

The Business Development Grant is part of the Business Growth Programme (BGP), managed by Birmingham City Council.

It has enabled the company, which constructs pre-cast concrete buildings, to purchase two mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs) supplied by Urban

Access that will help to make its work more efficient and mean it will no longer need to plan work around the hiring of equipment.

It has also made it possible for the S4J Ltd to employ a further two members of staff.

Twelve months ago, the firm was also awarded a Let's Grow grant of £5,000 to expand its training arm and buy a new vehicle to transport students to sites where they could get hands-on experience. S4J Ltd also employed a new training manager.

Financial director Paul Newton said: "We are delighted to have been successful in applying for funding for the second time."

"The application process was quick and easy, and as a result our business is growing."

Councillor Gordon Alcott, economic development and planning portfolio leader on Cannock Chase Council, said: "This is an excellent example of what these programmes can do for local businesses. S4J is going from strength to strength."

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WOLVERHAMPTON
MAGAZINE

Venison business proves great i-deer



Doug Wilkinson of the Shoal Hill Tavern and Martin Butler of Just Venison celebrate the increasing success of the venture. IT'S all smiles for a new business set up to supply venison. Founded by Martin Butler and his business partner, the aim of Just Venison is to increase the supply of the meet throughout the Midlands.

They have teamed up with Albrighton butcher Dave Price, who has helped to create 100 per cent venison sausages and burgers. The business was set up earlier this year but has started to take off in the past two months.

Mr Butler said: "We are both shooters and split the workload between us. We both work closely with landowners and we've both got full-time jobs working in construction." "This was a hobby, we used to sell through game dealers but now we've cut out the middle man."

"We're also passionate about the animal side as well - the animals won't be under duress. We're trained hunters and so it's a very ethical cull," Mr Butler added.

The venison is supplied to businesses in Staffordshire including Spice Bazaar, The Shoal Hill Tavern, Staffordshire Grill, and Essington Fruit Farm.

Rail chief insists HS2 will benefit Midlands

HS2 will play a crucial role in boosting growth in the Midlands and reducing the north-south divide, according to a new report.

The firm behind the scheme said it will drastically close the productivity gap in the region, helping to put it on a par with the rest of Britain by 2030. The claims are detailed in a Department for Transport-backed report published by HS2 Ltd.

The report lays out the benefits of the £56 billion rail line that will carve up 45 miles of Staffordshire countryside on its route from London to the north.

HS2 chairman Sir David Higgins is extolling the virtues of the line in the report. It comes in the wake of growing concerns that the country cannot afford to bankroll it as the economy slows.

But critics have branded the report an attempt to 'pull the wool over people's eyes', with West Midlands UKIP MEP Jill Seymour arguing that HS2 will prompt a further uplift to the south east's economy at the expense of the Midlands.

Mr Higgins denied that HS2 would simply expand

By Peter Madeley

the London commuter belt, saying: "This is not a fast road to London."

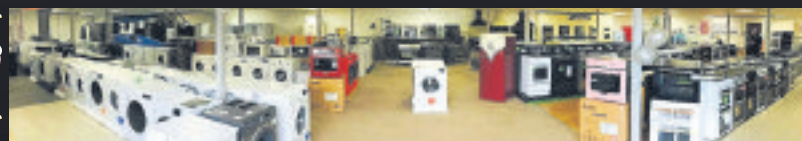
"HS2 will give an enormous increase in connectivity and rail capacity."

"One of the reasons London is successful is that you have eight million people and another four million commuting from less than an hour away."

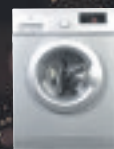
"We have to keep re-emphasising the case for HS2 for the public and make sure we are performing."

The report highlights that productivity per hour worked in the north and Midlands is between 10 and 15 per cent below the national average, and 30 per cent below London.

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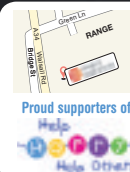
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Fireworks Now On
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The thriving business has recently celebrated its 70th birthday



The team at Peter Rogers are full of tips and advice on capturing the perfect picture

Team helps you capture the perfect festive snap

Commercial feature

With Christmas just over two weeks away, it is timely that Peter Rogers Photographic welcome again two camera experts into their Stafford shop on Saturday to help you capture that perfect festive image.

"Previous hands-on sessions with Mark, from Pentax, and Mike, from Sony, have been a great success and of course as it's Christmas they will be bringing a sack full of seasonal offers only available on the day," said Anthony Rogers, who took over the business from his father 33 years ago.

"Sure, some people buy online but our customers, who return again and again, really appreciate the personal service and the advice they can get from me and my very experienced and enthusiastic staff, before and indeed after the sale."

It has been a very special year for this thriving Stafford camera shop, which also offers a commercial photography service, as staff have just celebrated the shop's 70th birthday.

"My father Peter, who of course started shooting on film, would be utterly astounded what amazing pictures can be created instantly digitally these days and I suspect that nearly every house in the county will have their cameras,



Peter Rogers Photographic in Mill Street, Stafford

tablets or phones out on Christmas Day taking many a joyful image which will be treasured for years.

"We always say 'print it don't lose it' and that's why we have invested in a very sophisticated printing machine which customers can access when they come into our Mill Street shop or online at www.peterrogers-photo.co.uk/photo and come in later to pick up their prints," added Anthony.

"We also offer a framing service too."

Last year Peter Rogers Photographic bought a state-of-the-art biometric photographic system and often there is a steady stream of folk needing the correctly taken pictures for passports, driving licences or for ID cards.

For the past 20 years, Anthony has been assisted by David Wakefield, who with him provides the company's wedding photography, location and studio portrait service and in the shop by Stevan Winkle and Andrew Hilsdon.

So how will these enthusiastic camera folk be spending Christmas Day?

Anthony says he will be hosting a lunch for his friends with his wife and daughter, Stevan tell us he will be enjoying one glass too many with his wife Sarah, David will be walking his dog after a hearty Christmas lunch and Andrew will be enjoying the day with his family.

But what is certain, all will have their cameras at hand ready to capture that magic festive moment. They all hope you all will too!

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Food campaign is right up his street



Coronation Street star Antony Cotton has joined the support for the Feed A Family campaign

CORONATION Street's Antony Cotton is among the latest names to back the Express & Star and Chronicle's Feed a Family This Christmas campaign.

The soap star, who has trod the cobbled streets of Weatherfield for a staggering 15 years as Sean Tully, was in Stourbridge to switch on the town's Christmas lights. Although, it didn't quite go to plan when the decorations came on a few seconds early.

But the busy star was happy to stick around for pictures with his fans and take a moment to support our appeal before being whisked away towards his next destination.

The campaign is aiming to donate thousands of non-perishable items to food banks in Staffordshire and the Black Country, with more and more regular families having to turn to them just to get by. Last year, when we launched the drive, more than 9,000 items were generously donated by readers. Unsurprisingly celebrities

THE DROP-OFF POINTS:

Express & Star Wolverhampton, 51-53 Queen Street, WV1 1ES; Express & Star Cannock/Walsall office, Queen Square, Cannock WS11 1EA; Oldbury office, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury, B69 2DG.

DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE DROPPED OFF AT:

Waitrose Wolverhampton, Penn Road, WV2 4NJ; The Midcounties Co-operative Food Store Codsall, 28-32 Wood Lane/Bakers Way, Codsall WV8 1DB. Donations dropped off at those will go to The Well.



have not hesitated to offer their backing for the scheme and this year has been no different.

Slade guitarist Dave Hill, The Vamps, antiques guru Will Farmer and GB gold medallist Joe Clarke have all lent their faces to the cause in recent weeks.

While former Emmerdale actress Lisa Riley, featuring in this year's pantomime at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre - Jack and the Beanstalk, has been joined by co-stars of the produc-

tion Ian Adams and Adam C Booth in showing support.

The items will be donated to The Well (Home of Wolverhampton Food Bank), Wolverhampton's the Good Shepherd Ministry, the Black Country Food Bank, the Smethwick Food Bank, Walsall North Food Bank and Cannock and District Food Bank, while domestic violence support charity The Haven will also benefit.

People have until December 16 to donate.

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My heartbreak over disease – dog owner

A HEARTBROKEN dog owner says he does not want his beloved dog to be 'just another statistic' as the number of cases of Alabama Rot rises.

The death of Philip Richardson's rescue dog Jake in Cannock takes the number of cases of the rare deadly disease to 109 since it was first detected in the UK in 2012.

He is one of six dogs who have lost their lives to the disease across the UK since May, according to Vets4Pets.

They said there has been one confirmed case in Cannock, although Staffordshire Police said there were thought to have been three suspected cases in the Cannock Chase area and warned dog owners to be aware of the symptoms.

The other cases listed by Vets4Pets were in Frilsham in Berkshire, Little Lever in Bolton, Rugby in Warwickshire, Torquay in Devon and Chorley in Lancashire.

Xhd

There is no known cause for the disease, which is extremely rare, but Mr Richardson wants action to be taken to advise dog owners on how to avoid it.

He said: "I don't want Jake to have disappeared and be just another statistic for people to say 'I don't know what caused it, but oh well.'"

"He was the most gentle, loving and responsive animal to have in our lives and that was robbed from us by this disease which we should be having a vaccination for in 2017. I've never experienced grief like this. It is the responsible thing to do to at least put up posters warning people how to avoid it."

Experts say treatment is only successful in 20 per cent of cases and the best chance of survival is by washing pets' paws after a walk and checking for early symptoms.

11,000 reasons to be proud



Ian Middleton, who raised money for the Teenage Cancer Trust after completing an open water swimming challenge around Benidorm

A COMPANY boss overcame exhaustion and a nasty encounter with a jelly fish during an open water swim to raise money in memory of late teenager Stephen Sutton.

Ian Middleton, UK chairman at Gestamp, had never taken on anything as challenging as the six-mile swim around an island off Benidorm and admitted it was the thought of

raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust which spurred him on to the end.

The 53-year-old father-of-three from Cannock completed the event in three and a half hours, generating £11,694 for the charity. He said: "It was incredibly tough."

Stephen Sutton lost his battle against cancer in 2014.

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Personal Contract Purchase representative example

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Customer deposit	£1,995.00	Total amount payable	£22,708.90
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Total deposit	£3,495.00	Fixed rate of interest	2.31% p/a
On the road price (after saving)	£20,394.83	Duration of agreement	49 months
Amount of credit	£16,899.83	Annual mileage	6,000
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New call on power station site

THE MP for Cannock Chase has called for innovation to be 'front and centre' of all local developments, including the Rugeley B power station site.

In a Parliamentary debate between Treasury Questions in the Commons, Amanda Milling once again highlighted the need for schemes to be based on attracting hi-tech businesses that will create highly skilled and high-paid jobs.

In his response to the MP, Chancellor Philip Hammond said: "That was the

central theme of the Budget. If we are to ensure prosperity for all our people in the future, we must embrace the technologies and businesses of the future and create the jobs of the future."

Ms Milling said: "I have said repeatedly that the redevelopment plans for Rugeley B power station need to be ambitious, bold and visionary. I want to see all business and enterprise developments across the district to have innovation and technology front and centre."

Men told they must pay back drug earnings

TWO men involved in running a cannabis factory at a farm in Staffordshire were said to have benefited by more than £350,000 from the sophisticated and professional operation.

Ian Locke and Martin Young had been part of a two-year plot to cultivate cannabis plants in barns at Hoar Cross. During recent hearings at Stafford Crown Court, both men were subject to confiscation orders under the Proceeds of Crime Act. Young, aged 52, who had been tenant at Brackenhurst Farm, Newchurch, and was said to have benefited by around £200,000.

Balti house curries favour for 25 years



Chef Raja Kamran Hussain and owner Akeel Rashid

A FAMILY-run balti house is this week celebrating its 25th anniversary. Sanam Balti opened on Cannock Road in Chadsmoor in 1992 and has more than doubled in size since then due to its growing popularity.

When Mohammed Rashid launched the restaurant he had around half a dozen staff working for him serving a capacity of around 70 customers.

Now with his son, Akeel Rashid, aged 40 from Darlaston, at the helm, Sanam employs 15 people and seats up to 160. Head chef Mohammed Zabair has been there since day one.

Akeel said: "My dad wanted to open the first balti house in Chadsmoor which allowed customers to bring in their own alcohol. Now we are the largest balti house in the area. We have expanded over the years extending into the upstairs and building a conservatory."

"We have got to know so many customers they are more like family now. We have seen three generations of the same family come here as they grow up."

Auditions for shows

INITIAL castings for parts in adaptations of Oliver, and Blood Brothers among other shows will take place on Sunday for young people aged seven to 17.

The session is being held by Class Act, which runs regular drama training classes in various towns including Cannock. Booking is essential. To book a place or register an interest email classactteam@aol.com

Hospice group in plea on festive treat funds

A FUNDRAISING group are calling for one last push to help provide a Christmas treat for patients - after being forced to cancel a key event. Cannock Friends of Katharine House have worked tirelessly since the start of the year to achieve their goal of paying for Christmas Day at the hospice. They are just £800 shy of their £6,800 target.

The group were forced to cancel a black tie dinner and auction at Sandon Hall in October, which last year raised more than £2,000. Since then they have added extra events to make up the shortfall and gratefully received £420 from Cannock Chase Conservative Association. To help, or to obtain more information about upcoming events, contact ctk2408@hotmail.com or call 07771 915020/07708 662652.

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Fire chiefs' winter safety tips

STAFFORDSHIRE Fire and Rescue Service is urging people to stay safe in their homes and on the roads this winter.

It has released advice in the form of Ten Top Tips for staying safe this winter, which includes ways to prevent fires in the home and actions which can help motorists avoid being involved in road traffic collisions.

At this time of year, using electrical heat-

ers, electric blankets, candles and open fires is more common, and the service advises residents to check all equipment is working properly, has no exposed wires and is not left by flammable materials.

Glynn Luznyj, director of prevent and protect, said: "All of the actions in our tips only take a short amount of time but could save you from having a fire in your home."

Councils rake in millions from parking charges

ALMOST £5 million in profit was raked in from parking charges during 2016-17, marking an increase of almost five per cent on the previous year. The figures, compiled by the RAC, represent income from parking charges and penalty notices with running costs deducted.

They showed that the four Black Country authorities and four Staffordshire councils brought in £4.99m over the last year – up from £4.75m the year before. Wolverhampton City Council had the highest total in the region, bringing in £1.4 million in 2016-17, although that amount was £474,000 down on last year.

Owen shines with festive card art



Owen Wilding and St Giles community fundraiser Carolyn Harris

TALENTED schoolchildren are adding sparkle to St Giles Hospice's festive fundraising with their pictures for this year's Share a Card campaign – and a Great Wyrley pupil is one of the top designers.

Owen Wilding, aged nine, from St Thomas More Catholic Primary School has created a card showing a snowman, Christmas tree and presents for the 2017 appeal.

Deputy head Trish Johnston said: "We are incredibly proud of Owen and his artistic talents which he demonstrated whilst creating this beautiful card and are delighted to be supporting such a worthy cause."

Now in its seventh year, the Share a Card appeal lets people pick a bright and cheery card and display it in their home or workplace, encouraging people to use it to leave messages for colleagues, friends and family and make a donation to St Giles. Carolyn Harris from the hospice said: "Share a Card is always very popular." To order cards, call 01543 432538 or visit www.stgileshospice.com/share-a-card

Cannock Chase made £271,000 which was down from £290,000 the previous year. Lichfield recorded a surplus of £1.177m – a slight increase on the previous year – while Walsall Council profited to the tune of £492,000 – an increase of 192 per cent on 2015-16.

Parking surplus increased by 14 per cent to £846,000 in Stafford, while South Staffordshire Council saw a £75,000 drop. In Dudley, the local authority made £435,000 profit – up 14.8 per cent – and Sandwell Council brought in £430,000 – a rise of 35 per cent.

Technology

Across England, councils generated £819m from fees and fines in 2016-17 – an increase of 10 per cent.

RAC Foundation director Steve Gooding said the rise in profits reflected the 'record number of cars and volume of traffic'.

"We welcome the fact that councils are increasingly investing in technology to help make parking easier and less stressful," he added.

The Local Government Association said surpluses were spent on 'essential transport projects'.

Its transport spokesman Martin Tett said parking charges kept the roads clear, helped keep pedestrians, motorists and cyclists safe, and enabled people to park near their homes.

McDonald's refit

MCDONALD'S on the Towers Business Park in Rugeley, run by franchisee Doug Wright, has received a major digital makeover that has created 15 jobs. Customers now have the option to use one of the restaurant's self-order kiosks.

'Fight the flu' plea

PARENTS are being urged to have their young children vaccinated against flu 'before they spread it far and wide this winter'.

Children aged two to eight are entitled to a free flu vaccine.

Older people, asthma sufferers, mums-to-be and those with heart, lung and liver complaints are also entitled to free vaccinations.

Containers specialist seeks 30 new recruits

CONTAINER logistics specialist Pentalver is looking to recruit up to 30 new staff at its site in Norton Canes.

The firm currently employs around 280 at the depot in Pentalver Way. Pentalver, which employs more than 600 people across five UK facilities, is keen to recruit HGV class one drivers, workshop technicians and yard shunters.

In recent years an £18 million rail terminal was given the go-ahead for the Pentalver Way depot for trains coming from south coast ports. Bosses said the move was the right decision for Cannock despite anger from some residents who objected to the proposals saying they would create too much noise. Pentalver, which began operations in 1980, was bought by US firm Genesee & Wyoming Inc in May.

Carer took cash from pensioners' accounts

Cheers! Tony is pub VIP



Tony Manton, third from left, with staff and customers at the relaunch

STAFF at a Lichfield pub made one of the city's most popular residents a VIP for the day when they asked him to unveil its new look.

The team at the Saxon Penny, Stonnyland Drive, were unanimous when they were asked to choose someone to cut the ribbon – they immediately turned to one of their best-loved regulars, Tony Manton.

Lisa Fisher, pub assistant manager, said: "We've built up a strong following of lovely regulars, and

Mr Manton and his late wife Monica were like my grandparents, the loveliest couple.

"We wanted to do something to show Mr Manton how much she had meant to us, so we arranged to have a memorial bench placed here at the pub."

Mr Manton said: "My wife and I were big fans of the Saxon Penny and I was so touched at the effort the team made to comfort me and make a memorial to her."

A DEBT-STRICKEN carer who pocketed thousands after exploiting vulnerable pensioners has been jailed for 32 months.

Janice Leverett secretly snatched £5,000 from three unsuspecting victims as she did their shopping.

The fraudster was trusted with the bank cards and PIN numbers of the Brownhills women but instead took cash.

Leverett came into contact with her victims at Knaves Court. The 48-year-old said she needed extra cash to clear debts and support her low wages and so was employed by her friend on a casual basis to help out.

She eventually began doing the shopping for the victims, including a 68-year-old schizophrenic; an 89-year-old who had suffered a stroke, had mental health issues and poor eyesight and a third victim who said the ordeal left her suffering with anxiety, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Convictions

Her offending came to light when the sons of one of the women became concerned about outgoings, with police later informed.

Ms Kamalpreet Shergill, defending, said the withdrawals were initially 'legitimate' before Leverett, then of Carlton Crescent, Burntwood, began taking more than she was entitled to.

The grandmother, now of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, knows it is unlikely she will be employed again as a carer, she added.

Leverett, who had previous convictions for offences involving theft and deception in the 1980s and 1990s, initially denied three counts of fraud but changed her plea.

Judge Simon Ward told her: "Elderly and infirm people rely on their carers.

"They can't live their day-to-day lives unless carers come and do the shopping and the finances and the things that you have had to do. It's an emotional reliance as well. You took advantage of them."

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Signs warn drivers of the the fly-tipped rubbish in Great Wyrley

A PILE of rubbish was dumped on a country lane, partly blocking the road.

The waste, partly made up of wood and concrete, was left in Jacob's Hall Lane, Great Wyrley, last Wednesday morning. High-

ways workers from South Staffordshire Council put up signs to direct drivers around the hazard.

Ward councillor Kathleen Williams said the lane, off Stafford Road, was targeted 'two to three times' a year.

She said: "The people who do this are very inconsiderate, and a lot of the time do not come from this area.

"Fortunately, the district council is good at picking up the rubbish once it is reported."

Alert after thousands taken by fraudsters

FRAUDSTERS impersonating police stole £20,000 from two victims by asking them to take part in fake undercover operations.

There have been 21 cases reported to Staffordshire Police and Action Fraud of fraudsters conning people out of money by claiming to be police or from their bank's fraud team.

In two of these cases approximately £20,000 was stolen. The perpetrators tell victims they need help in investigating fraud at a local bank branch by targeting complicit staff who are suspected of issuing fake bank notes.

To get the cash, the victims are asked to withdraw a large sum of money – in the thousands – from their



Fraudsters have impersonated police

bank, which the fraudster then claims is counterfeit.

The victims are encouraged not to discuss the case with any staff at the branch by convincing them they could

be part of the fraud. They are then asked to hand the money over for 'police' analysis.

Victims are assured it will be put back into their account but then the criminals take off with it. Money is also obtained via a transfer to a so-called 'safe account' to protect them from the alleged corrupt bank staff.

Victim

Police are warning people, particularly the elderly, to be wary of the growing fraud. Detective Inspector Rob Harvmann, of the force's Fraud and Financial Investigation Unit said: "Be vigilant, do not engage in conversation, put the phone down and tell someone you trust."

Anyone who thinks they have been a victim can contact 101 or Action Fraud.

IN BRIEF

Drugs seized

DRUGS with a street value of £1,300 were seized in two raids. Officers found 15 cannabis plants at an address in Harley Close, Rugeley, and six in Heather Road, Cannock. It resulted in the arrest of a 30-year-old local man.

Register goods

STAFFORDSHIRE Fire and Rescue Service is encouraging people to register new electrical goods by filling in a form at www.registermyappliance.org.uk allowing them to receive safety updates and recall information.

Warning on van

PUPILS on the way to Penkridge Middle School on Thursday were followed by a dark blue van, prompting a warning for parents to be alert.

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It's challenging to play Cruella de Vil

There's Cinderella and Jack and the Beanstalk. And there's Peter Pan and Snow White. But those looking for something different for the festive season can head to Birmingham's REP, which is producing a unique version of *The 101 Dalmatians*.

Dalmatians Pongo and Missis enjoy an idyllic life with their humans, Mr and Mrs Dearly. Then one day, the house is filled with the patter of tiny paws when Missis gives birth to a litter of adorable puppies. But just as the Dearlys get used to their new housemates, the puppies mysteriously vanish.

With the help of the canine community and an Old English Sheepdog, Pongo and Missis set out on an adventure to find the missing puppies. Their quest leads them to the vicious Cruella de Vil. She hates dogs but loves fur coats and has set her sights on a certain black and white spotty pattern. Will the animals be able to get home safely in time for Christmas?

The new adaptation of Dodie Smith's delightful 1956 novel is the perfect festive treat and has been brilliantly transformed for the stage by Debbie Isitt, the writer and director of the hugely popular *Nativity!* films.

Tessa Walker has returned to direct the family favourite following her record-breaking 2015 production, *The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe*.

Gloria Onitiri, who plays Cruella, says audiences are in for a treat. The show opened at the end of November and will run until January 13.

"It's great. It's a real story, it's not just a fantasy panto, and it's based on a real piece of literature with lots of depth. People can expect a bit of a spectacle with plenty of morality and right and wrong. It's great."

EXCITING

Though the production is avowedly not a panto a few Christmas rules hold dear – first among them, that such shows only work when there's a great cast.

Gloria says: "Yes, we've got a ridiculously talented group of people on stage. It's a multi-faceted and diverse cast with puppeteers, musicians who play multiple instruments as well as great singers, dancers and actors. It's exciting. Without having to use lots of pyrotechnics – we don't have to 'Baz Luhrmann' it – we've created a genuine spectacle."

The dogs aren't real. Of course. Though Hollywood movie makers might be able to train 101 Dalmatians, the REP's production features an assortment of puppets.

Gloria laughs. "I think when I got cast if I'd have been told it was real dogs, I'd have said no. But the puppeteering works really well."

The actress, who has previously featured on TV's *Doctors*, *Spamalot*, *Grass*, *Porgy and Bess* and *Bad Girls*, enjoys playing the show's villain.

"Everybody knows the Disney version, but the great thing about Cruella is that she's human. She's had a whole life. So I've had to work out where she's come from and why she feels the way she does and why she is so mean and awful. What's she hiding underneath it all?"

"For me, any character you play, you need to do that with. You need a 3D character. I like people who are challenging. Everyone else would say she's mad and she's mean – I would say she's challenging."

Gloria has enjoyed a fascinating career in which she's featured in everything from *Jack and the Beanstalk* to *Taming of the Shrew* and *The Tempest*. There have been plenty of classics – but she's mixed those with productions like *The Lion King* at The Lyceum.

"I don't think it's just because of the dice. I think the diversity has been because I sing as well. I just love a good story, whatever is there in front of me, I'll do it. I also think that by keeping myself as broad as I possibly can, my skills grow. It's about longevity and keeping my options open."

"I'm obsessed with language. I studied English at

It's a dog's life – the cast in rehearsals with the puppets



The dogs in the play aren't real



Gloria Onitiri (Cruella De Vil)



university and I'm obsessed with the root of things and how stories have changed, not just from English culture, but from all cultures. I've enjoyed Shakespeare – Shakespeare is the mothership. I featured at The Globe in *Taming of the Shrew*, which was phenomenal. There's a tradition that you have to wake up the stage before you start a show and we did a bit of drumming and all sorts and stood in the famous King's spot. It was the first time my cast had been on the stage and I burst into tears because it was so powerful and emotional. It just happened. I did not will it. It is an emotional space. There are parts of the stage you can do a speech and feel comedy will work."

Gloria is glad to be back home for *101 Dalmatians*. She studied at University in Birmingham, leaving in 2006 and being too busy to return. "It's like visiting an old relative. I've felt wonderful being back here. The REP building is just astonishing and everyone is really kind."

The REP is getting into the charitable spirit during the

show by creating a joint fundraising partnership with Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. The city centre theatre will be raising funds during the run of their production of *The Hundred and One Dalmatians*.

There are various fundraising activities planned during the run of the show, which will help to jointly fundraise towards Birmingham Repertory Theatre's million pound campaign REP First and the work of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

Twenty pence of every pound raised will go towards the work of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, with the remainder going towards REP First initiatives, such as providing interpreters for the REP's youth theatre in order for Deaf children and young people to take part, as well as allowing the theatre to stage more accessible productions for people with a variety of additional support needs.

Tickets are available from the box office.

● For more entertainment news and reviews see *The Ticket* in your Express & Star every Friday.

Jack And The Beanstalk cast



It's Grand pantomime time again – oh yes it is!

GRAND pantomime Jack And The Beanstalk opens on Saturday to delight family audiences in the Midlands throughout the festive season and beyond.

The show features returning favourites from last year's award-winning production of Aladdin – Lisa Riley, Doreen Tipton, Ian Adams and Adam C Booth – and joining them will be West End and Pop Idol star Gareth Gates as Jack.

Also on stage will be The Bill star Graham Cole as the evil Fleshcreep, musical theatre actress Sarah Vaughan as the Princess and Julie Paton will play The Harp. Also watch out for Daisy the Cow and a very hungry giant.

Lisa Riley captured the hearts of Wolverhampton as the Slave of the Ring in last year's pantomime and is back to play Mother Nature. Lisa is a regular panellist on ITV's Loose Women, wowed viewers with her twinkle-toes in Strictly Come Dancing and first found fame playing Mandy Dingle in the ITV soap Emmerdale.

Black Country internet sensation Doreen Tipton, as played by Walsall actress Gill Jordan, has graciously accepted the workload in appearing alongside Lisa as the Trot family's lazy next door neighbour. Doreen's original million hit YouTube

viral success has blossomed into a series of theatre tours, a film featuring Robert Plant and Steve Bull, an autobiography – which somebody else had to write because she couldn't be bothered – and her own online comedy sketch channel called Doreen TV.

Ian Adams returns to the role of dame, Adam C Booth who received great critical acclaim as Wishee Washee last year will play Jack's brother Simple Simon and Graham Cole, best-known as PC Tony Stamp in The Bill, will be going from good cop to hissable villain.

Irish actress Sarah Vaughan, who stars alongside them as the Princess, has appeared in panto for producers Qdos Entertainment numerous times, most recently as Cinderella in High Wycombe alongside Louie Spence and Linda Robson last year.

Bradford-raised Gareth Gates was the runner-up to Will Young in the first series of Pop Idol and went on to find success in theatre and in such shows as Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Les Miserables, Legally Blonde and Footloose.

This year's panto will again be produced by Qdos Entertainment, the world's biggest pantomime producer and the same team behind the annual Grand panto for the last two decades. It is being directed by David Janson with choreography by Julie Paton.

The spectacular show will continue at the Grand until January 14.

Rock & roll with music legend Roy

It's party time with the I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday man... Roy Wood, pictured, brings his Rock & Roll Band to the Robin 2 in Bilston on Tuesday.

The former Move and Wizzard hitmaker will be performing his hits, from Blackberry Way to See My Baby Jive, at this concert. Also at the Mount Pleasant venue tomorrow (Friday) will be a Northern Soul and Motown night featuring Angelo Starr, brother of late soul legend Edwin, and Lorraine Silver with the Edwin Starr Band.



Festive concerts at Birmingham venues

Tomorrow evening (Friday) the City of Birmingham Choir present their annual performance of Handel's choral masterpiece Messiah at Symphony Hall, Birmingham. It's Christmas with the Overtones at the same venue on Saturday night when the vocal group perform festive favourites.

The Salvation Army are in concert twice at Symphony Hall on Sunday, at 2.30 and 6pm, and the That'll Be The Day Christmas Show will be rocking around the Christmas tree at Birmingham Town Hall on Sunday evening. The Choir of St John's College, Cambridge, bring lunchtime Christmas music to Symphony Hall on Monday at 1pm, and in the evening the venue will host the festive choral sounds of Harry Christophers and The Sixteen with Glory To The Christ Child. See thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 3333.

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CHOICE



John Noakes

John Noakes: TV Hero (BBC2, 5.30pm)
Documentary paying tribute to the life and career of John Noakes, the Blue Peter presenter and TV daredevil who died in May this year. Hearing from many of his colleagues and co-workers - both in front of and behind the cameras - along with friends and family, the programme sheds light on Noakes reputation as a 'man of action', cemented by stunts including climbing Nelson's Column without a harness, achieving a world-record breaking five mile free-fall, and risking life and limb on the Cresta Run. The film also illustrates how John hid his true personality behind his enthusiastic Blue Peter persona, considering himself to be an 'ordinary bloke' at heart.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Nigella: At My Table. (R)
12.00 Football Focus. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.15 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Coverage of the opening semi-final. **4.30 Final Score. 5.10 Len Goodman's Partners in Rhyme. 5.40 BBC News. 5.50 Regional Programme.**
6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Jilly Goolden, Olly Smith, Sophie Grigson Michael Caines, Fay Maschler, Brian Turner, Cyrus Todiwala and Tony Singh compete in a "food and drink" edition of the unorthodox quiz. (R)
6.45 Strictly Come Dancing. The five remaining celebrities and their seasoned dancing partners reach the semi-final, and take to the stage in the studio to once again demonstrate their dancing skills. All the contestants face a two dances apiece as they try to win the favour of judges Shirley Ballas, Bruno Tonioli, Darcey Bussell and Craig Revel Horwood - and the viewers at home - if they are to be in with a chance of winning. Once the show is over, voting lines are opened, and fans are given a chance to have their say over who should make it to the final.
8.20 Michael McIntyre's Big Show. The comedian's Saturday night entertainment showcase continues, as celebrity couple and TV presenting duo Marvin and Rochelle Humes both hand over their phones for the show's first-ever double Send-to-All. Pop-rock outfit The Vamps perform on-stage, and Michael showcases some of his new material. Plus, an extra in an in-production advert suddenly finds himself under the spotlight as the Unexpected Star of the Show.
9.20 Casualty. Ellie's unruly teenage son Blake gets involved in an off-licence robbery, and Max continues to make a bad impression on would-be sweetheart Polly.
10.10 BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update.
10.30 Match of the Day. Highlights from the Premier League, including West Ham United v Chelsea at the London Stadium and Newcastle United v Leicester City.
11.55 The NFL Show.
12.25 Film: Someone to Watch Over Me. (1987) **2.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. 2.10 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.15 Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman. (R) **7.00 Nature's Wildest Events.** (R) **7.30 Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. 8.00 Deadly 60. (R) 8.30 Show Me What You're Made Of: UK. 9.00 Saturday Mash-Up! 11.00 Penguins on a Plane: Great Animal Moves. (R) 12.00 Raymond Blanc: How to Cook Well. (R) 12.30 Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes. (R) 1.00 Demolition: The Wrecking Crew. (R) 2.00 Operation Snout Tiger. (R) 3.00 Escape to the Continent. (R) 4.00 Mastermind. (R) 4.30 Live Snooker: UK Championship.** Further coverage of the opening semi-final. **5.30 John Noakes: TV Hero.**
6.10 BP Confidential. Documentary charting Blue Peter's development from a typical children's magazine show into a national institution, and an important lynchpin in the BBC One schedule. Originally broadcast in 1998, as part of the show's 40th anniversary celebrations, the programme also reveals how taking the helm on Blue Peter often led to presenters and producers facing unexpected personal and professional pressures. (R)
7.00 Live Snooker: UK Championship. Coverage of the second semi-final on the 11th day at the Barbican Centre in York, as the prestigious ranking tournament continues. At this stage of last year's event, world number one Mark Selby dominated fellow Englishman Shaun Murphy, winning 6-2 to progress to a final against Ronnie O'Sullivan. Presented by Hazel Irvine, with a commentary team that includes Steve Davis, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Parrott, Dennis Taylor and Peter Ebdon. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
10.00 QI XL. Sara Pascoe, Colin Lane and Jimmy Carr join regular panellist Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig for an extended edition of the quiz show.
10.45 Insert Name Here. Comedy panel game in which host Sue Perkins asks teams captained by Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe to answer questions about famous people who share a name. (R)
11.15 Film: The Cider House Rules. (1999) Drama, starring Tobey Maguire and Michael Caine.
1.10 Film: Borrowed Time. (2012) **2.40 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

**6.00 CITV: Sooty. 6.10 Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.20 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45 Super 4. (R) 7.00 Mission Employable. (R) 7.05 Oddbods. (R) 7.10 Ultimate Spider-Man: Web Warriors. 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Fangbone. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) 8.30 Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. 9.00 Scrambled!: Wishflair. (R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Saturday Morning with James Martin. 11.25 Gino's Italian Coastal Escape. (R) 11.50 The Hungry Sailors. (R) 12.50 Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) 1.15 ITV News: Weather. 1.25 The X Factor: Final. (R) 3.00 Endeavour. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R)
6.00 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. The comedian follows the work of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home in London, meeting staff involved in treating, training and rehoming animals. (R)
6.25 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.35 ITV News: Weather.
6.50 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painful-looking accidents.
7.15 Ninja Warrior UK. Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara host the second semi-final, challenging more returning contestants to face the infamous obstacle course once again. (R)
8.20 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the celebrity survival challenge, as the famous faces' ordeal in the Australian jungle draws close to its conclusion. The pair offer viewers one last chance to catch up with the surviving contestants, all of whom will have their hearts set on being named King or Queen of the Jungle.
9.50 Through the Keyhole: I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! New series. The home-invasion panel show returns with an "I'm A Celebrity..." special. With panellists Jimmy Carr, Stacey Solomon, Mylene Klass and Tony Blackburn.
10.50 ITV News: Weather.
11.15 Film: Shaun of the Dead. (2004) Comedy horror, with Simon Pegg.
12.50 Jackpot247. 3.00 The Hungry Sailors. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.**

CHANNEL 4

**6.05 Trail Running: Skyrunner World Series. 6.35 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.50 Frasier. (R) 8.15 Frasier. (R) 8.45 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 9.10 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 9.40 The Simpsons. (R) 10.10 The Simpsons. (R) 10.40 The Simpsons. (R) 11.10 Film: 12 Dates of Christmas. (2011) Romantic fantasy, with Amy Smart and Mark-Paul Gosselaar. 12.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 1.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 1.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 2.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 3.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 3.30 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 4.30 Best Laid Plans. 5.30 Grand Designs. (R)
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Guy Martin's WWI Tank. The presenter builds a working replica of a First World War tank to mark the centenary of the Battle of Cambrai, and takes his tank driving test so he can take his creation on to the streets for Lincoln's Remembrance Day parade. He also delves into the history of the earliest armoured vehicles, the soldiers who crewed them, and the women who built them. (R)
9.00 Film: X-Men: Days of Future Past. (2014) In a future ravaged by war, the superhero team makes a desperate last stand against a force of deadly robots. Their only hope is to send Wolverine back in time to the 1970s, to join forces with an earlier version of the X-Men and change the events that started the conflict. Superhero adventure sequel, starring Hugh Jackman, Jennifer Lawrence, James McAvoy and Michael Fassbender.
11.35 Film: The Drop. (2014) A bartender who secretly works for gangsters gets involved in a robbery gone wrong that digs up long-buried secrets. Crime drama, starring Tom Hardy.
1.35 The Last Leg. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by another guest for a comic review of the significant moments of the past seven days. (R) **2.30 Hollyoaks.** Omnibus. Prince and Sally help each other out, Cindy struggles to trust Dirk, and Sami is desperate to help James at work. **4.40 Location, Location, Location.** Helping two first-time buyers in Manchester. (R) **5.35 Kirstie's Handmade Christmas. (R)****

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.10 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.45 The Gadget Show. (R) 11.40 Cruising With Jane McDonald. 11.50 Film: A Perfect Christmas List. (2014) 1.40 Film: A Nutcracker Christmas. (2016) Premiere. Festive drama, starring Amy Acker. 3.20 Film: Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey?! (2014) Premiere. Comedy sequel, starring Martin Clunes. 4.20 5 News Update. 4.25 Film: Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey?! (2014) Concluded. 5.35 Film: The Family Man. (2000) Drama, starring Nicolas Cage. **6.35 5 News Update.
6.40 Film: The Family Man. (2000) Concluded.
7.55 5 News Weekend.
8.00 Santa Makes You Laugh Out Loud. Comedians Zoe Lyons, Ellie Taylor and Marlon Davis present a seasonal clip show featuring some of the funniest Christmas-themed videos currently doing the rounds online. Among the disastrous 'Santa fails', Christmas dinner disasters and grumpy dressed-up pets, the trio also highlight the stories behind popular yuletide videos, including the story of the bearded shopper who decided to play along when a three-year-old passer-by mistook him for Father Christmas, and Norman the bull mastiff, who hates Christmas and all associated songs. Narrated by Iain Lee. (R)
9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games.
9.55 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including Peterborough United v Blackburn Rovers.
10.25 NCIS: New Orleans. The captain of a private yacht, along with a waiter, are murdered onboard the vessel, and the NCIS agents investigate when it emerges the boat belongs to a drug baron.
11.20 NCIS: New Orleans. Pride goes rogue to take down drug baron Garcia, and when his NCIS colleagues volunteer to help, he launches a undercover operation that could cost their careers - and their lives.
12.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 Film: The Craigslist Killer. (2011) **4.40 Cruising With Jane McDonald. (R) 5.30 House Doctor. (R) 5.20 Wildlife SOS. (R)****

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Ancient Egypt: Life and Death in the Valley of the Kings **8.00** Kolkata with Sue Perkins **9.00** Witnesses: A Frozen Death **10.55** The Vietnam War **11.45** What a Performance! Pioneers of Popular Entertainment **12.45** Peak Blinders **3.40** Close
ITV2
12.20 Take Me Out **1.35** Film: Beethoven's Christmas Adventure (2011) **2.35** FYI Daily **2.40** Film: Beethoven's Christmas Adventure (2011) **3.25** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **4.55** Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **6.00** FYI Daily **6.05** Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **7.10** Film: The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) **8.10** FYI Daily **8.15** Film: The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) **9.50** Family Guy **10.50** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Cam! **11.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **1.20** Release the Hounds **2.15** Viral Tap **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
12.35 Film: Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot (1991) **2.40** Sherlock Holmes: The Last Vampyre **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Grantchester **11.00** Blue Murder **1.05** Wycliffe **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping
ITV4
1.15 ITV Racing: Live from Sandown. Ed Chamberlin presents coverage of eight races. **4.00** Film: The Dam Busters (1954) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05** Film: The Dam Busters (1954) **6.35** Film: Live and Let Die (1973) **7.05** FYI Daily **7.40** Film: Live and Let Die (1973) **9.00** Film: Octopussy (1983) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** Film: Octopussy (1983) **11.40** Film: Renegades (1989) **12.40** FYI Daily **12.45** Film: Renegades (1989) **1.50** Monster Carp **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
11.00 The Big Bang Theory **12.00** Film: Marmaduke (2010) **1.45** Rude (sh) Tube Shorts **2.00** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: The Impossible (2012) **11.10** Gogglebox **1.20** The Inbetweeners **2.25** Rude Tube **3.20** First Dates Hotel **4.15** How I Met Your Mother **4.55** Rules of Engagement
Film4
11.00 Miracle on 34th Street (1947) **1.00** Flight of the Navigator (1986) **2.45** Ramona and Beezus (2010) **4.50** The Two Faces of January (2014) **6.40** About Time (2013) **9.00** The Wolf of Wall Street (2013) **12.30** Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) **2.15** Heart of a Dog (2015) **3.55** Close

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42nd Street

New York City, 1933, and Peggy Sawyer, just off the bus from out-of-town hicksville, manages to miss the auditions for the dazzling new Broadway show but Peggy's impromptu dance routine is later spotted by the casting director, who decides to take a chance on her after all...

All the stops are pulled out as this classic tale of Broadway's Golden Age comes to London, directed and co-written by veteran Mark Bramble and featuring the showstoppers We're In The Money, Lullaby of Broadway, Shuffle Off To Buffalo, Dames, I Only Have Eyes For You and 42nd Street.

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The Daily Telegraph

Aladdin

It has already been a smash-hit on Broadway, and now Dean John-Wilson stars as the rakish street urchin-turned-handsome-prince in Disney's lavish musical production of Aladdin, now at the Prince Edward Theatre in London.

Directed and choreographed by Casey Nicholaw (The Book of Mormon), Aladdin the Musical gives you the catchy songs from the classic Disney film plus new material by Alan Menken (Beauty and the Beast) with lyrics by Howard Ashman (Beauty and the Beast) and Sir Tim Rice (The Lion King). Enjoy this Disney classic in a new way!

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David Attenborough

Attenborough and the Giant Elephant (BBC1, 9pm)

The naturalist investigates the life of Jumbo, a famous Victorian elephant, supposedly the largest that ever lived. Jumbo arrived in London Zoo in 1865 and was popular with the royal family, but was dangerously unhappy in captivity. In later life, Jumbo would be sold to PT Barnum's circus, becoming a celebrity before dying under mysterious circumstances. Attenborough examines Jumbo's remains and considers the lives of elephants in the wild to learn more about the animal's difficult life.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Barbara Dickson. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.50** Mary Berry's Country House Secrets. (R) **2.50** Lifestyle. **3.00** Songs of Praise. **3.35** Film: Toy Story. (1995) Pixar animated adventure. **4.50** Blue Planet II. (R) **5.50** BBC News.

6.05 Regional Programme.

6.15 **Countryfile.** Ellie Harrison and Matt Baker present the show from the Norfolk-Suffolk border, discovering a conservation effort to save two species of animal found in the area that are on the brink of extinction. Ellie also meets a mother and daughter trying to make Ipswich safe for hedgehogs and Matt meets a farmer who has found a way to grow vegetables all year round. Plus, a shepherd-turned-artists, alpaca with an unusual job and a report on animal diseases.

7.15 **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results.** Claudia Winkleman and Tess Daly reveal the results of last night's viewers' vote, which will decide who is going through to next week's final.

8.00 **Blue Planet II.** The impact of humans on aquatic wildlife, from albatrosses unwittingly feeding their offspring plastic to communications between animals disrupted by noise. Last in the series.

9.00 **Attenborough and the Giant Elephant.** The naturalist investigates the life of a Victorian elephant, supposedly the largest that ever lived, that became famous at London Zoo and as part of PT Barnum's circus.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Manchester United v Manchester City, Liverpool v Everton and Southampton v Arsenal.

11.35 **The Women's Football Show.** A look at the biggest issues in the women's game, focusing on matters at both club and international level.

12.10 Ronny Chieng: International Student. **12.40** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.45** BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Coast. (R) **7.05** Gardeners' World. (R) **7.35** The Secret History of the British Garden. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Food & Drink. (R) **11.30** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. Coverage of the opening session of the final from the Barbican Centre in York, as the tournament widely regarded as the second-most prestigious on the calendar continues. Subsequent programmes subject to change. **5.15** Ski Sunday.

6.15 **Flog It!** Antiques experts James Lewis and Caroline Hawley visit Wolverhampton Art Gallery where they assess aboriginal art and a 1920s tennis racket. Paul Martin presents. (R)

7.00 **Live Snooker: UK Championship.** Coverage of the second session of the final from the Barbican Centre in York, where the first player to reach 10 frames will be crowned champion. Mark Selby held his nerve to win the trophy here last year for the second time, holding off a comeback by Ronnie O'Sullivan to prevail 10-7. At 7-2 ahead the Jester from Leicester seemed set for a comfortable evening, but the Rocket closed the deficit to 8-7, before Selby clinched victory in style with two centuries to cement his place at the top of the world rankings. Presented by Hazel Irvine, with a commentary team that includes Steve Davis, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Parrott, Dennis Taylor and Peter Ebdon.

11.00 **Employable Me.** Documentary following some of Britain's most extraordinary job seekers as they prove that having Tourette's syndrome or autism should not make them unemployable. (R)

12.00 Athletics: European Cross Country Highlights. Action from the annual championships, featuring the men's and women's races in Samorin, Slovakia. **1.05** Film: No Nesbo's Headhunters. (2011) A corporate headhunter moonlights as a thief, but his latest robbery leads him to uncover a dangerous secret. Crime thriller, starring Aksel Hennie and Nikolaj Coster-Waldau. **2.40** Sign Zone: Question Time. Topical debate from Swansea, chaired by David Dimbleby, with panelists including Welsh Labour Party leader Carwyn Jones and TV and radio host Richard Bacon. (R) **3.40** Holby City. A new arrival in Holby sets the wheels of change in motion. (R) **4.40** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Mission: Employable. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ben 10. **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Film: Scrambled!: Scooby-Doo! Haunted Holidays. (2012) **9.00** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury. (R) **9.55** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **10.25** Save Money: Good Food. (R) **11.00** Tipping Point. (R) **12.00** Film: Junior. (1994) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **2.05** ITV News: Weather. **2.15** You've Been Framed! Gold. (R) **2.45** Midsomer Murders. (R) **4.40** The Chase. (R) **5.35** How to Spend It Well at Christmas with Phillip Schofield. (R)

6.35 Regional Programme: Weather. **6.45** ITV News: Weather.

7.00 **Ninja Warrior UK.** Competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge. (R)

8.00 **The Chase Celebrity Special.** Sam Quek, Basil Brush, Andi Peters and Charlie Higson answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh.

9.00 **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!** Ant and Dec present the final of the 17th series, as the remaining famous faces take on one last round of gruelling challenges in the Australian jungle. Votes from the audience will decide who is the year's most popular contestant. Once the results are in and the viewers' choice has been revealed, they will be crowned as this year's King or Queen of the Jungle, before they and their fellow finalists make their escape from the jungle and begin their long-awaited journey back to the comforts of home. Last in the series.

10.35 ITV News: Weather. **10.50** Diamond Geezers and Gold Dealers. (R) **11.50** The Detectives: Inside the Major Crimes Team. (R) **12.40** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **6.45** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Paul Hollywood: A Baker's Life. (R) **1.00** Film: Evolution. (2001) Sci-fi comedy, starring David Duchovny. **3.00** Film: The Sorcerer's Apprentice. (2010) Fantasy adventure, starring Nicolas Cage. **5.10** The Snowman. (R) **5.45** The Snowman and the Snowdog. (R)

6.10 Channel 4 News.

6.30 **Britain's Wildest Weather 2017.** Some of the UK's most unusual weather in the past year, including catastrophic flooding, tornadoes, lightning strikes and record-breaking storms. Featuring first-hand accounts and footage, and a look at the scientific explanations for these unusual conditions.

8.00 **Coastal Railways with Julie Walters.** The actress travels on the famous Great Western Railway to Cornwall. She recalls childhood holidays when she stops at Torquay before heading to a supposedly haunted castle at Kingswear. She also uncovers tales of smuggling and joins members of the RNLi on a practice run before visiting an unusual cake shop in Penzance.

9.00 **Film: The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel.** (2015) Premiere. With the original Best Exotic Marigold Hotel a roaring success, owner Sonny decides the time is right to expand his business empire. But to do so, he and the rest of the residents must pull out all the stops to impress a potential investor's inspector – a task that proves to be easier said than done. Comedy drama sequel, with Dev Patel, Maggie Smith, Judi Dench and Richard Gere.

11.30 **Film: Unbroken.** (2014) An Olympic athlete serving in the Second World War survives being lost at sea and held in a brutal POW camp. Fact-based drama, with Jack O'Connell and Domhnall Gleeson.

1.55 **Film: Departure.** (2015) Premiere. Drama, starring Juliet Stevenson. **3.45** Gillette World Sport. **4.15** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **4.40** Grand Designs Australia. A couple build a large house on an Adelaide hillside. (R) **5.35** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.35** Wisper. (R) **6.40** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.45** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **7.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Mofy. **7.20** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.35** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.30** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.50** Moby. **9.00** The Secret of the Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.05** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.00** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.30** Film: The Secret Life of Mrs Claus. (2015) **1.10** Film: Journey Back to Christmas. (2016) Premiere. Festive fantasy, starring Candace Cameron Bure. **2.55** Trolls Holiday Special. **3.25** 5 News Weekend. **3.30** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp. **4.30** 5 News Update. **4.35** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Concluded.

6.45 **Film: Need for Speed.** (2014) A street racer is betrayed by a friend, and ends up being framed for causing a death during an illegal contest. Two years later, he is released from prison and returns to the underground racing circuit with revenge in mind. Action adventure based on the video game, starring Aaron Paul, Dominic Cooper, Imogen Poots and Michael Keaton. Edited for language and nudity.

9.00 **Film: Chappie.** (2015) Premiere. Two small-time crooks kidnap the inventor of a highly intelligent law-enforcement robot. They force him to reprogram the android so it will help them carry out an audacious heist worth \$200million, but in doing so, incur the wrath of a ruthless and corrupt general. Sci-fi thriller, starring Sharlto Copley, Hugh Jackman and Dev Patel.

10.05 News Update. **10.05** **Film: Chappie.** (2015) Concluded. **11.20** **Film: Resident Evil: Afterlife.** (2010) Zombie-fighting heroine Alice's search for human survivors leads her into a deadly trap. Action horror sequel, starring Milla Jovovich, Ali Larter and Wentworth Miller.

1.05 SuperCasino. **3.10** Soap Star Killer: Countdown to Murder. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Young, Gifted and Classical: The Making of a Maestro **9.00** Leonora Carrington: The Lost Surrealist **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: Tim Peake Special – How to Be an Astronaut **11.30** Secret Knowledge: Walter Scott's Castle **12.00** Britain's Lost Waterlands: Escape to Swallows and Amazons Country **1.00** Peaky Blinders **3.55** Close

ITV2
12.00 Mr Bean **12.30** Merry Christmas Mr Bean **1.00** You've Been Framed! With Bells On! **1.25** You've Been Framed at Christmas! **2.00** Take Me Out Celebrity Christmas Special **3.05** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **4.35** Film: Yogi Bear (2010) **5.35** FYI Daily **5.40** Film: Yogi Bear (2010) **6.10** Film: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **7.10** FYI Daily **7.15** Film: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **8.00** Film: The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05** Film: The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006) **10.05** Family Guy **10.35** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp **11.35** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **12.35** Film: Carrie (2013) **1.35** FYI Daily **1.40** Film: Carrie (2013) **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV3
12.45 Film: Columbo Goes to the Guillotine (1989) **2.45** Film: Ben-Hur (1959) **3.45** FYI Daily **3.50** Film: Ben-Hur (1959) **7.00** The History of Mr Polly **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Lewis **1.00** The Knack **3.00** The History of Mr Polly **4.40** On the Buses **5.50** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4
1.05 Film: The Last Sunset (1961) **2.10** FYI Daily **2.15** Film: The Last Sunset (1961) **3.20** Film: Paranoia (2013) **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25** Film: Paranoia (2013) **5.25** Film: The Man with the Golden Gun (1974) **8.00** Film: A View to a Kill (1985) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10** Film: A View to a Kill (1985) **10.40** Film: Species (1995) **11.40** FYI Daily **11.45** Film: Species (1995) **12.50** Film: Universal Soldier: Day of Reckoning (2012) **1.50** FYI Daily **1.55** Film: Universal Soldier: Day of Reckoning (2012) **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.00 Film: A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures (2010) **1.45** Rude (ish) Tube Shorts **2.00** Frozen at Christmas **3.00** The Golden Girls **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Prometheus (2012) **11.25** Gogglebox **12.30** The Inbetweeners **1.35** Rude Tube **2.35** First Dates Hotel

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Christmas Gift, Channel 5, 12pm

A cold-hearted architect is sent to assess a small town for possible redevelopment as a ski resort, and decides to take his daughter along on the trip. But before long, their warm welcome by the residents begins to melt his frosty facade, turning him against his boss and the company's unscrupulous plans. Drama, starring John Denver, Jane Kaczmarek and Kurtwood Smith. (1986)

TUESDAY

Merry Ex-mas, Channel 5, 1.30pm

During a blizzard at Christmas, Noelle finds herself stranded with her ex-husband, forcing them to finally face their unresolved feelings for each other. Drama, starring Kristy Swanson. (2014)

WEDNESDAY

Guess Who's Coming to Christmas, Channel 5, 12pm

A cynical rock star receives a letter from a young fan, inviting him to spend the festive season with the youngster and his family and asking if he will perform at the local Christmas concert. With his public image in need of a boost, he reluctantly agrees to the request, but unexpectedly finds himself warming to his hosts' holiday spirit. Comedy, with Drew Lachey. (2013)



Once Upon a Christmas, Friday, Channel 5, 1.35pm

THURSDAY

An Unexpected Christmas, Channel 5, 3.20pm

Newlyweds the Fabers plan to host their first Christmas together and want everything to be perfect for their visiting relatives. However, Cynthia learns she is pregnant ahead of schedule and Steve suddenly loses his job, so the couple decide to hide the news from their families. Festive comedy, starring Susie Abromeit, Dillon Casey and Erin Gray. (2016)

FRIDAY

Once Upon a Christmas, Channel 5, 1.35pm

When a princess escapes her entourage and explores New York over Christmas, she meets a young man who shows her his side of the city. Romantic drama, starring Briana Evigan and Paul Campbell. (2015)

Modern confectioners discover their sweet tooth

In a couple of weeks, most of us will probably be sick of the sight of food and drink, in particular sweet treats.

But before we begin the annual season of overindulgence, the Sweetmakers are back on our screens to take us on a journey into the past.

Following the success of their Tudor Treat, Victorian Treat and Georgian Treat shows on BBC Two earlier this year, the four modern confectioners will recreate and reinvent past Christmas treats.

Award-winning chocolatiers Paul A Young and Diana Short, bespoke cake decorator and owner of Pretty Gorgeous Cake Company Cynthia Stroud, and sweet consultant and candy creator Andy Baxendale will use original recipes and equipment to whip up some of the bestsellers from yuletides of the past.

From candy canes, sugar mice and fudge, to yule logs, chocolate coins and selection boxes, sweet treats have become an integral part of our festive celebrations.

The quartet will discover how their predecessors helped come up with many of the culinary festive traditions that we enjoy today.

Guided by food historian and writer Dr Annie Gray and social historian and broadcaster Emma Dabiri, the Sweetmakers start by uncovering the mystery of what a sugarplum is – and it has nothing to do with the fruit.

They then decorate a series of exquisite Twelfth Cakes, which were the Georgian precursors of the Victorian Christmas Cake and date back to the medieval period.

They were at the height of their popularity with the wealthy elite when John Mollard wrote his cookery book in 1803.

Back then, it was the custom for each guest at a Twelfth Day get together to be assigned the role of a particular character by choosing a card at random from a pack and take on the identity for the whole night.

The entertainment ended with the finale of cutting the elegantly iced

cake, which was usually very large and decorated with two crowns for the king and queen and sugar paste or wax images of the other characters.

As they move into the Victorian era, our confectioners encounter the massive gulf between rich and poor. They create treats for both, beginning with one of Queen Victoria's favourites – Boar's Head cake.

Then they create jelly pistols and sugar mice which were accessible to everyone in the 1900s, even children with just a few pennies to spend.

Finally, they'll explore the wealth of chocolate novelties launched in the 1920s, including the predecessor of the modern Christmas favourite the Chocolate Orange.

The Terry's 'Dessert Chocolate Apple' was made from 1926 before being outshone by the company's Chocolate Orange, which eventually led to the halt in production of the apple in 1954.



The Sweetmakers at Christmas, Friday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Hatton Garden

ITV, 9pm

In April 2015, a gang of ageing criminals pulled off an audacious burglary in the heart of London's diamond district, getting away with jewellery and cash. The crime certainly captured the public's imagination – it's already inspired two films, with another, starring Michael Caine and Ray Winstone, currently in the works. It's also the inspiration for this four-part drama from Little Boy Blue writer Jeff Pope, which is showing across consecutive evenings. The first episode introduces us to the gang, played by actors including Timothy Spall, Kenneth Cranham and Brian F O'Byrne, as they plan their ingenious heist. But the series won't be about glorifying their actions, as it goes on to explore the tensions within the group – and the impact of the robbery on their victims.

TUESDAY

The World's Most Expensive Presents Channel 4, 9pm

During this occasional series, we've already met some of those people with a habit of spending a fortune on an extravagant Christmas, including one individual who shelled out £615,000 on diamond-encrusted tree toppers. Tonight, the latest edition

looks at what these kinds of big spenders may be planning on putting under the tree this yuletide, while cameras follow craftsmen and women producing lavish gifts - which have sizeable price tags to match. These include a 24-carat gold-plated bike worth a whopping £250,000. There's also a look at the dog owner who has big ideas to impress the guests at a glitzy party - namely dressing their beloved pooch in a specially made £40,000 ball gown.

WEDNESDAY

Mary Berry's Country House Secrets BBC1, 8pm

In the final episode of the series, Mary visits Goodwood House, home to the March family, famous for their iconic horse racing and motoring events. She is taken on a thrilling lap of Goodwood motor circuit by Lord March, before attending one of his infamous dinner parties where 300 guests dine in style in splendid state rooms. Mary also learns more about the Estate's organic farm, before preparing a Coq-au-Vin and a four tier cake for a cricket tea set in one of the oldest cricket clubs in the world. Last in the series.

Harrogate: A Yorkshire Christmas Channel 5, 9pm

The Yorkshire spa town of Harrogate has frequently topped the list of Britain's 'happiest places to live', so as Christmas approaches does that mean the streets are overflowing with festive cheer? Or are some locals feeling more stressed than seasonal? This two-part programme meets some of the business owners who are fighting to ensure that shoppers don't abandon

Harrogate's independent boutiques and tea rooms for big out-of-town centres or the internet at this important time – and one way they hope to give visitors a unique experience is through the annual Christmas windows competition. Meanwhile, a local college is also running its own contest to design a sculpture to be the centrepiece of the town's decorations.



Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast, Friday, Channel 4, 8pm

THURSDAY

The Apprentice: Why I Fired Them BBC1, 8pm

Giving a robot two different names, running out of booze in a corporate box at Wembley Stadium and filming a modern family car advertisement in a Norman fort are just some of the fatal errors committed by this year's Apprentice candidates. Now, with the final just days away and Lord Sugar on the cusp of choosing his new business partner, this programme offers viewers the chance to look back on the candidates who fell before the final hurdle. Helped by previously unseen insights from his eagle-eyed lieutenants Karren Brady and Claude Littner, Lord Sugar leads us through the best and worst decisions made by the wannabe business moguls. He also looks back on the boardroom bust-ups, and explains how he came to his decisions on who would hear those famous words 'You're Fired!'.

FRIDAY

Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast Channel 4, 8pm

Jamie Oliver tutors guest Sarah Millican on recreating her favourite microwave meal, while Jimmy Doherty builds a soft-serve ice-cream machine for a child's birthday party.



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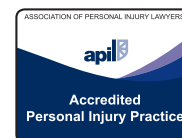
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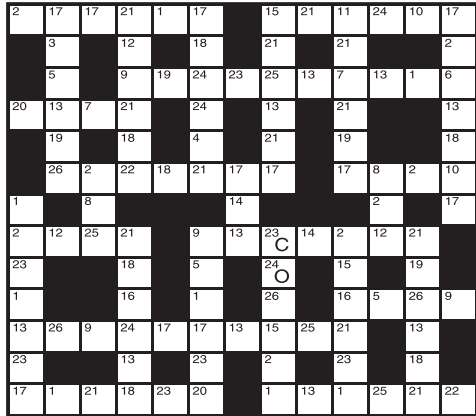


BRAIN GYM

No.459

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
D	M	P	W	G	E	B	C	S	J	L	U	H													
I	V	O	F	A	R	X	Y	Z	N	T	Q	K													

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

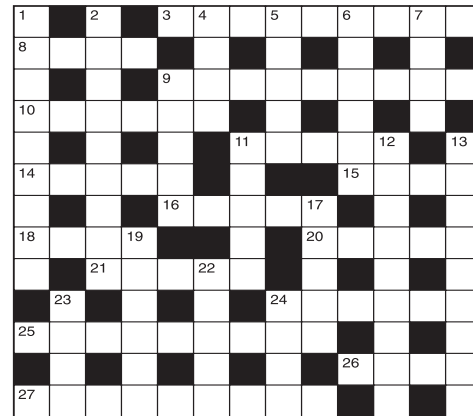
Cryptic Clues:

Across

3. Game bird is all ruffled (9)
8. Customs applications (4)
9. Tropic island produce (9)
10. Where you must go if you get time (6)
11. Put your towel, if not your shirt, on it (5)
14. Superstitious attraction (5)
15. Adjust the sails or dock (4)
16. Gather together for a service (5)
18. Nothing we'd failed to settle (4)
20. Pursue a certain line (5)
21. Is old, perhaps, but dependable (5)
24. A crafty offer? (6)
25. Bad enough to cause alarm (9)
26. The company is not out to make money (4)
27. Lady killer (9)

Down

1. Not much reason for doubt (9)
2. Thinks time and dates are wrong (9)
4. I fled the country (4)
5. It's noted for its slowness (5)
6. Confront with a small account charge (6)
7. Girl in a road accident (4)
9. It won't stop you reading for long (5)
11. Gather a crowd, we hear (5)
12. Youngster who works on commission? (6,3)
13. Cigarband? (5,4)
17. Might be cold, yet good tempered (5)
19. Followed in a persistent way (6)
22. Bury the reconstituted nitre (5)
23. A fur for a foreign lady (4)
24. Boats wrecked by a wind (4)



Quick Clues:

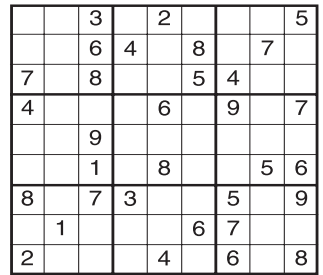
Across

3. Walk (9)
8. Engrave (4)
9. Ascribe (9)
10. Pass (6)
11. Traded (5)
14. Things pointed out (5)
15. Apiece (4)
16. Kingdom (5)
18. Wander (4)
20. Go in (5)
21. Faithful (5)
24. Signal-fire (6)
25. Edible (9)
26. A fish (4)
27. Employees (9)

Down

1. Sitting (9)
2. 8-sided (9)
4. Ceremony (4)
5. Coalesce (5)
6. Marriageable (6)
7. Obligation (4)
9. A flower (5)
11. Slow manner of speaking (5)
12. Strategist (9)
13. Pungency (9)
17. Confused fight (5)
19. Bog (6)
22. Repeated (5)
23. Urn (4)
24. Melancholy (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	2	8	5	3	6	4	1	9
5	4	3	2	9	1	6	8	7
9	6	1	8	7	4	3	5	2
3	1	7	9	6	5	8	2	4
4	8	5	1	2	3	7	9	6
6	9	2	4	8	7	5	3	1
1	7	6	3	5	2	9	4	8
8	5	4	7	1	9	2	6	3
2	3	9	6	4	8	1	7	5

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Sack; 3 Triangle; 8 Eats; 9 Aversion; 11 Made advances; 13 Relays; 14 Stroll; 17 Putting-green; 20 Waited on; 21 Zany; 22 Minatory; 23 Brae.
Down: 1 Steamers; 2 Citadel; 4 Revive; 5 Apron stage; 6 Guide; 7 Eons; 10 Easy street; 12 Blatant; 15 Open-air; 16 Indoor; 18 Union; 19 Swim. QUICK - Across: 1 Icon; 3 Activate; 8 Tier; 9 Headland; 11 Misrepresent; 13 Themes; 14 Proper; 17 Amelioration; 20 Confound; 21 Base; 22 Derisory; 23 Weir. Down: 1 Intimate; 2 Oversee; 4 Cheery; 5 Industrial; 6 Again; 7 Eddy; 10 Rebellious; 12 Grandeur; 15 Primate; 16 Joiner; 18 Minor; 19 Iced.

Quiz

1. Which Bizet opera was based on a story by Prosper Merimee?
2. Who wrote the film The Misfits for Marilyn Monroe?
3. In which US city is the counterpart of London's Cleopatra's Needle?
4. Of what is a dyne a unit?
5. Which country is immediately north of Panama?
6. What is the full form of i.e.?
7. How is the herb Artemisia dracunculoides better known?
8. Of which US state is Helena the capital?
9. Which mammal's most commonly-seen variety is the bottlenosed?
10. Whose voice does Plato use in The Republic?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Boudicca; 2 Hungary; 3 Michael Bentt; 4 Peter Lorre; 5 The Oval; 6 Zeus; 7 China; 8 Raspberry; 9 Poliomyelitis; 10 Bernardo

Bertolucci.

Niner: EDINBURGH

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

97386 gives an alarm,
1536 gives a second alarm,
42672 gives an obsession.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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- 14 Dec** Cathedral Chorus & Salvation Army Christmas Carols **20.00** Doors **18.30**
- 15 Dec** Friends of the Holy Land Carol Service **19.30**
- 16 Dec** BBC Radio WM Carol Service **14.00**
Christmas By Candlelight **19.30**
- 17 & 24 Dec** Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols **18.00**
- 23 Dec** Shoppers Carol Service (CF)* **14.00**
- 24 Dec** Family Crib Service (CF)* **15.00**
Midnight Mass **23.30**
- 25 Dec** Choral Eucharist for Christmas Day **11.00**
Evening Prayer and Hymns **15.00**
- 26 Dec** Cloth for the Cradle **15.00**

*CF indicates a specifically child-friendly service.



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Five-bedroomed detached home in popular village

A most spacious well-equipped five-bedroomed detached house, 29 Kings Road, Calf Heath, has extensive accommodation over three floors.

In a popular south Staffordshire village, it is for sale through Boot & Son Estate Agents at £549,950.

With double glazing and gas central heating, it has a central reception hall, a lounge, dressing room, two en-suites, a cloakroom/WC, a first floor family bathroom, a second floor study landing, two second floor bedrooms, a dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility room, three first floor bedrooms, a detached double garage, well-stocked gardens and extensive off-road parking.

In more detail the central reception hall has a stairwell and solid Cherry wood flooring, a cloaks cupboard and a part-tiled cloakroom/WC off. The lounge has a feature limestone fireplace and double doors to the dining room.

The part-tiled breakfast kitchen has a bay window, French windows to the garden, an extensive range of units. There is also a range cooker, integrated appliances and ceramic tiled flooring. The utility room has plumbing for a washing machine and ceramic tiled flooring.

Bedroom one has an archway to a dressing room and an en-suite bathroom. Bedroom two has built-in wardrobes and an en-suite shower room. Bedroom three has a range of built-in wardrobes. There is a bathroom with a corner bath and a shower. On the second floor is bedroom four with built-in wardrobes. Bedroom five has a Velux roof light and loft access.

Outside, the detached double garage has power, light and loft storage. There are well stocked private gardens incorporating lawns, a garden pool, mature ornamental trees and shrubs, a paved terrace and pathways, side gated pedestrian access, brick-built barbecue, timber decked patio, arbour and close board fencing/screen hedging. The property is approached via block paved drive with extensive parking area providing plenty of off-road parking.

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KEY FEATURES

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Well-stocked gardens



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Detached bungalow in a sought-after spot has three bedrooms and is individually designed

This individually designed detached bungalow in a sought-after residential location in West Butts Road, Etchinghill, is within walking distance of local amenities and Cannock Chase.

It is for sale through C Residential Estate Agents at £450,000.

It has a large reception hall, guest cloakroom/WC, dining room, lounge, breakfast kitchen, three bedrooms, a shower room, conservatory, integral garage and a lawned garden.

ETCHINGHILL £450,000

In more detail the reception hall is large and has two storage cupboards.

The cloakroom/WC has tiled walls and flooring, while the lounge has a feature marble effect fire surround and hearth with a coal-effect gas fire and sliding patio doors to the rear

garden. The breakfast kitchen has a range of base and wall units, a five-ring gas hob with an extractor hood over, electric oven, fridge/freezer and dishwasher. It also has tiled flooring and a window overlooking the front of the property.

Bedroom one has a built-in wardrobe and windows to both the side and rear. Bedroom two has a built-in wardrobe and bedroom three has patio doors.

Call 01889 583577.



Immaculately presented four-bedroomed detached family home with planning permission for garaging

This immaculately presented four-bedroomed detached family home in Upper Landywood Lane, Cheslyn Hay, lies on a large plot of around a quarter of an acre.

It is for sale through Lovett & Co Estate Agents at £600,000.

With double glazing and gas central heating, it has several spacious reception rooms, a modern high spec dining kitchen, four large double bedrooms with modern en-suites to three of them, a

CHESLYN HAY £600,000

useful cellar, a large private secluded rear garden and two driveways with parking for numerous vehicles.

The vendor has advised there is planning permission for both a single and double garage.

Located in Cheslyn Hay, the property benefits from a diverse

range of amenities including primary and secondary schools, local shopping facilities and public transport services to neighbouring areas. There are excellent commuter links available with the M6 toll road linking the Midlands motorway network, and Landywood station providing commuter rail services.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing, contact Lovett & Co on 01543 889410 or visit www.lovettco.co.uk

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- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen
- cloakroom and utility room
- Four bedrooms
- Bathroom and separate toilet
- Integral garage
- Garden
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating D (63)

£260,000 FREEHOLD

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

OUR OFFICE CLOSSES
FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2017 AT 3:00PM
AND
RE-OPEN TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY 2018
AT 9:00AM



FLAT 5, TEDDESLEY HOUSE, CLAY STREET, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED FIRST FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT
Conveniently Located For Facilities Of The Centre Of The
Popular Market Village Of Penkridge

- Communal hall, stairs and landing
- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom and en-suite shower room
- Two bedrooms
- Allocated parking space
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating C (80)

£143,950

4 BALMORAL COURT, BELT ROAD, HEDNESFORD



NO CHAIN

GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED FLAT
Conveniently Located For Facilities

- Enclosed porch
- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Allocated parking space
- Communal grounds
- Electric heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating C (74)

£79,950 For 90% Share

40 OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK



CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED, IMPROVED
DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE WITH FLEXIBLE
ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING SELF CONTAINED
FLAT SUITABLE FOR EXTENDED FAMILY
OCCUPYING MATURE WELL STOCKED GARDENS
In Much Sought After Residential Area Adjoining
Cannock Park To The Rear

- Two reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen
- Games/hobby/play room
- Five bedrooms
- Two bathrooms
- Shower room
- Self contained flat (currently let on AST)
- Double integral garage
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- EPC rating D (66)

£615,000 FREEHOLD



NO CHAIN

5 WAVENEY GROVE, CANNOCK.



CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED AND IMPROVED FIVE BEDROOMED DETACHED
FAMILY HOUSE
Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac In Much Sought After Residential Area Of The Town

- Vestibule
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen
- Rear porch, cloakroom with WC
- Five bedrooms
- En-suite shower room and refitted bathroom
- Integral garage and well stocked gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Predominantly double glazed
- EPC rating C (71)

£385,000 FREEHOLD

THE BARN, YEW TREE FARM POTTAL POOL ROAD, PENKRIDGE



- RANGE OF BARN WITH PLANNING PERMISSION FOR CONVERSION
- WITH PERMISSION TO PROVIDE FIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES
- FROM 2 TO 4 BEDROOMED RESIDENCES
- DEVELOPED - TOTAL GROSS EXTERNAL FLOOR AREA OF APPROX 7,700 SQ FT (717m²)
- OFFERED WITH LAND EXTENDING TO APPROX 2.00 ACRES (0.809 HA)
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK CHASE AN AREA NOTED FOR ITS OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

PRICE £545,000 FREEHOLD

THE COACH HOUSE, 13 BRAMWELL DRIVE, HEDNESFORD



NO CHAIN

WELL APPOINTED FIRST FLOOR TWO BEDROOM COACH HOUSE
STYLE RESIDENCE Located In Rapidly Maturing Cul-De-Sac
Convenient For Wide Range of Facilities At Hednesford Town Centre

- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen area
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Integral garage
- Private Garden
- Fully double glazed & gas fired central heating
- Intruder alarm
- Inspection highly recommended
- EPC rating tbc

£149,950 FREEHOLD

9 STATION ROAD, PELSALL



A PRESTIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT OF
AN INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED FOUR
BEDROOMED HOUSE
Conveniently Located For Facilities At
Pelsall Village Centre

- Two reception rooms
- Luxury fitted kitchen
- Cloakroom and first floor study
- Four bedrooms
- Family bathroom and 2 ensuites
- Garage and landscaped gardens
- Fully double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- Intruder alarm
- EPC rating tbc

£310,000

PLOT 1, 198 HEDNESFORD ROAD, NORTON CANES



ONE OF TWO WELL EQUIPPED FOUR
BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY
RESIDENCES
Well Located For Facilities Within This
Popular Village

- Reception/study
- Cloakroom with Wc
- Lounge
- Fitted dining kitchen
- Four double bedrooms
- Ensuite shower room and family bathroom
- Integral garage & gardens
- Intruder alarm & 10 year warranty
- Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- EPC rating B (84)

£269,950 FREEHOLD

40 ANSTY DRIVE, HEATH HAYES



IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOMED LINKED DETACHED HOUSE
located In Much Sought After Residential Area Conveniently Located For
Facilities

- Entrance lobby
- Lounge
- Refitted dining kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Built-on garage
- Well stocked gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating D (55)

£196,950 FREEHOLD

01543 505454



www.bootandson.co.uk

Subject to Set-up Fee of £250 inc Vat
No Let - No Fee - No Hidden Extras

SALES LETTINGS MANAGEMENT AUCTIONS SURVEYS COMMERCIAL EPC's

11 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED FIRST FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
Located In Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Secure communal entrance
- Entrance hall
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Family bathroom
- Electric heating
- Double glazed
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating: C (74)

£590pcm

9 WHITFIELD ROAD, HEDNESFORD



SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW

- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- All windows double glazed
- Gardens
- Off road parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: E (46)

£625pcm

FLAT 1 ADAM COURT, NEW PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK



SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOMED GROUND FLOOR FLAT
In Sought After Area Convenient For Town Centre

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Off road parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: C (74)

£525pcm

199A CANNOCK ROAD, CHADSMOOR



REFURBISHED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT

- Entrance lobby
- Hall
- Lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Double glazed
- Electric heating
- Off road parking
- Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS allowed
- EPC rating: E (40)

£440pcm

4 SCHOOL PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION
Sited On The Picturesque Rural Estate Of Teddesley Park

- Fitted dining kitchen
- Inner Hall
- Lounge
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Oil fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Landscaped communal grounds
- Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- EPC rating: C (69)

£650pcm

40 BROADMEADOW LANE, GREAT WYRLEY



TWO BEDROOM END TERRACED HOUSE
Located In Popular Residential Area

- Lounge/dining room
- Kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Built-on garage
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Gardens & off road parking
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating: D (55)

£625pcm

12 CHALFONT AVENUE, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOMED END MEWS HOUSE
Located In Popular Residential Area Of The Town

- Refitted extended breakfast kitchen
- Lounge/dining area
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Integral garage
- Gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating: D (64)

£650pcm

18 KINROSS AVENUE, HEDNESFORD



WELL APPOINTED DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Sought After Residential Area And Been Newly Decorated Throughout

- Lounge & dining area
- Kitchen
- Master bedroom with dressing area & en-suite
- Three further bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Off road parking
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating: D (58)

£750pcm

7 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Secure communal entrance
- Entrance hall
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Ensuite shower room
- Electric heating
- Double glazing
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- EPC rating: C (75)

£650pcm

20 AVON ROAD, CANNOCK



REFURBISHED SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Convenient For Local Facilities

- Lounge/dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Side enclosed verandah
- Utility room
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- All windows double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- No pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: E (52)

£595pcm

FLAT 9 CROSS STREET, BRIDGTOWN



SPACIOUS WELL EQUIPPED REFURBISHED GROUND FLOOR FLAT
Convenient For Local Facilities

- Lounge
- Dining kitchen & utility
- Two bedrooms
- Cellar
- Part tiled shower room
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Off road parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: C (70)

£535pcm

5 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Secure communal entrance
- Entrance hall
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Electric heating
- Double glazed
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- EPC rating: D (68)

£575pcm

34 CHASELEY AVENUE, CANNOCK



SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Cul-de-sac In Sought After Shoal Hill Area

- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen & utility room
- Three bedrooms
- Shower room
- Built-on garage
- Fully double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- Sorry no DSS, smokers or pets allowed
- EPC rating: C (69)

£625pcm

1C CANNOCK ROAD, BURNTWOOD



WELL PRESENTED ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Convenient For Local Facilities

- Entrance lobby
- Hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: D (67)

£450pcm

APARTMENT 13 BEECH TREE COURT, BEECH TREE LANE, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
Located In Popular Residential Area Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre

- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Off road parking
- Security phone intercom
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: C(80)

£525pcm

1 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT
Located In Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Secure communal entrance
- Entrance Hall
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Electric heating
- Double glazed
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- EPC rating: D (68)

£575pcm

THE BARN, OFF CLAY STREET, PENKRIDGE



CHARACTERFUL THREE BEDROOMED BARN CONVERSION
Located In A Most Convenient Position Within This Much Sought After South Staffordshire Market Village

- Cloakroom with WC
- Lounge
- Fitted dining kitchen
- Bedroom three/study
- Two double bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Two allocated parking spaces
- Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating: C (71)

£850pcm

FLAT 9A CROSS STREET, BRIDGTOWN



SPACIOUS WELL EQUIPPED REFURBISHED FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Convenient For Local Facilities

- Entrance lobby
- Lounge
- Dining kitchen & utility
- Inner lobby
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: D (68)

£535pcm

21 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED SECOND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Secure communal entrance
- Entrance hall
- Lift facility
- Two bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Electric heating
- Double glazed
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- EPC rating: C (71)

£550pcm

FLAT 4 PILLATON HOUSE, CROWNBRIDGE COURT, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Located In Popular Development Close To Village Centre

- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Family bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Allocated parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: C (76)

£550pcm

22 PRINCESS STREET, CANNOCK



AN IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED BUNGALOW

- Lounge
- Breakfast kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Extensive off road parking
- Gardens
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: D (61)

£650pcm

22 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED SECOND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Secure communal entrance
- Entrance hall
- Lift facility
- Two bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Electric heater
- Double glazed
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- EPC rating: C (70)

£550pcm

6 ST MARYS CLOSE, SHARESHILL



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In A Popular Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- Lounge
- Dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Study/family room
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Sorry no DSS, pets or Smokers
- EPC rating: C (69)

£675pcm

11 THE WILLOWS, CANNOCK



RECENTLY REFURBISHED ONE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In A Popular Residential Area

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Large garden
- Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- EPC rating: D (55)

£530pcm

5 RICKYARD PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO STOREY TWO BEDROOMED BARN CONVERSION
Located On The Picturesque Rural Estate Of Teddesley Park

- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Landing
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Oil fired central heating
- Communal grounds
- Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- EPC rating: B (82)

£595pcm (Plus Service Charge)

Rugeley
01889 358689

Jayman

Cannock
01543 505566

Railway Court, Norton Canes



Offers Around £55,000
Two Bedroom Apartment
Lounge
Kitchen
Bathroom
60% Shared Ownership
Awaiting EPC

Earlswood Way, Cannock



Offers Around £70,000
Second Floor Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
60% Shared Ownership
EPC C

New Road, Featherstone



Offers Around £80,000
Park Home
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Garden
Off Road Parking

Leasowe Road, Rugeley



Offers Around £125,000
Terraced Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Front & Rear Gardens
EPC D

Littleworth Road, Cannock



Offers Around £130,000
Terraced Property
Two Bedrooms
Two Reception Rooms
Bathroom
Off Road Parking
EPC D

Burntwood Road, Norton Canes



Offers Around £130,000
Commercial Property
Corner Plot
Four Rppms Downstairs
Three Rooms Upstairs
Front & Rear Gardens
Awaiting EPC

Curlew Hil, Cannock



Offers Around £150,000
Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Fully Renovated
Tandem Garage
Front & Rear Gardens
EPC E

Rectory Gardens, Rugeley



Offers Around £155,000
Terraced Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Garage
EPC E

John Street, Cannock



Offers Around £185,000
Dormer Semi Detached Bungalow
Four Bedrooms
Fitted Kitchen
Rear Garden
Garage
EPC E

Woodheyas Lawns, Rugeley



Offers Around £190,000
Semi Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Extended
Utility Room
Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

River View, Penkridge



Offers Around £195,000
New Build
Two Bedrooms
Lounge / Diner
Kitchen
Parking
Awaiting EPC

Far Lady Croft, Armitage



Offers Around £199,950
Town House Property
Four Bedrooms
Lounge / Diner
Fitted Kitchen
Off Road Parking
EPC B

Chase Side Drive, Rugeley



Offers Around £200,000
Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen/Breakfast
Integral Garage
Private Rear Garden
EPC D

Woodmill, Yoxall



Offers Around £215,000
Terraced Cottage
Two Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
Rear Garden
Rural Location
EPC E

Rickerscote, Staffordshire



Offers Around £220,000
Well Presented Cottage
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Well Maintained Gardens
EPC E

Newlands Court, Cannock



Offers Around £259,995
Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
En Suite
Utility
Conservatory
EPC D

Canterbury Drive, Rugeley



Offers Around £265,000
Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Two Bathrooms
Sought After Location
Garage
EPC C

Richardson Way



Offers Around £270,000
Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Cinema Room
Conservatory
NO CHAIN
EPC C

Rugeley Road, Hazelslade



Offers Around £375,000
New Build Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Choice of Kitchen
Two En Suites
Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

Holly Hill Road, Rugeley



Offers Around £410,000
Detached Dormer Bungalow
Four / Five Bedrooms
Well Presented
Garage
Part Exchange Considered
EPC C

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NEW **WIMBLEBURY**
ARTHUR STREET

SSTC
Similar Required

- Ground Floor
- Bathroom
- Generous Lounge
- Rear Garden
- Kitchen
- No Chain
- Double Bedroom

\$62,000

NEW **CHESLYN HAY**
HAWKS CLOSE

SSTC
Similar Required

- Spacious Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Driveway
- Kitchen/Diner
- Playroom
- Conservatory
- Rear Garden

\$200,000

NEW **HEDNESFORD**
BRINDLEY CRESCENT

SSTC
Similar Required

- Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Extended Semi
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Rear Garden
- Utility Area
- Viewing Essential

\$170,000

WIMBLEBURY
WATERLILY CLOSE

SSTC
Similar Required

- Through Hallway,
- Bedrooms
- Refitted Kitchen,
- Refitted Bathroom.
- Lounge Diner,
- Generous Driveway
- Two Double
- Detached Garage

\$149,950



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HEATH HAYES
GORSEMOOR ROAD

SSTC
Similar Required

- Link Detached
- Kitchen
- Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge,
- Bathroom
- Dining Room
- Gardens

\$178,000

WIMBLEBURY
BARN WAY

SSTC
Similar Required

- Deceptively Spacious
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Popular Location
- Utility Room
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 4 Bedrooms
- Refitted
- 2 En-Suites

\$319,950

BURNTWOOD
CROSS STREET

SSTC
Similar Required

- Detached Home
- 3 Bedrooms
- Through Hallway
- Shower Room
- Lounge/Diner
- Driveway
- Kitchen
- No Chain

\$209,950

HEATH HAYES
CANTERBURY WAY

SSTC
Similar Required

- Extended
- Dining Room
- Family Home
- Kitchen,
- Hallway, WC
- Breakfast Room
- Lounge,
- 4 Double Bedrooms

\$259,950

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ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY

Chartered Surveyors
Commercial Property Consultants
Estate Agents & Surveyors

BUSINESS UNIT

PROGRESS DRIVE, CANNOCK



- Refurbished Detached Industrial Unit
- Approx 3,811 sq ft (354 sq m)
- Enclosed Yard
- Two Storey Offices
- Within Close Proximity of the M6 Toll Road and M6 Motorway Network

RENT: £27,000 pax

OFFICES

TOWERS POINT, TOWERS BUSINESS PARK, RUGELEY



- Modern Offices on First & Second Floors
- Approx 1,742 sq ft each floor
- Allocated Car Parking
- Passenger Lift
- EPC Rating D-100

RENT: From £7.00 per sq ft pax REF: BP/1674/AWH

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 9 PROSPECT BUSINESS PARK, CANNOCK



- Unit Approx 6,560 sq ft (609.4 sq m)
- Mezzanine Storage Area Approx 661 sq ft (61.4 sq m)
- Minimum Eaves Height of 5.5m
- Within Close Proximity of the A5 and National Motorway Networks
- EPC Rating D-77

PRICE: £410,000. RENT: £32,000 pax

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 3 PARK VENTURE CENTRE, BRIDGTOWN



- Unit Approx 1,639 sq ft (152.3 sq m)
- Roller Shutter to the rear
- Office & WC
- Parking
- EPC Rating E-124

RENT: £9,000 pax plus VAT

Season's Greetings
from
ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY
We would like to wish all our clients and customers a
Happy Christmas
and a prosperous 2018.

OFFICES

FALCON POINT & POINT EAST, CANNOCK



- Individual Office Suites
- From 1,650 sq ft (200.6 sq m)
- Close to the A5, M6 and M6 Toll Road
- Car Parking
- EPC Rating D-93

RENT: £6.50 per sq ft plus VAT

OFFICES

EDRIC HOUSE, WOLSELEY COURT, RUGELEY



- Office Accommodation Over 2 Floors
- Approx 9,995 sq ft (928.5 sq m)
- Potential to Split by Floor
- Allocated Car Parking for 50 Cars
- EPC Rated D-84

RENT: £75,000 pax

ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY

are pleased to report that the property market is improving with increasing demand for Industrial and Retail premises To Let or For Sale.

Tenants waiting for units of various sizes and landlords or owners with suitable properties are invited to contact the office to discuss marketing.

OFFICE

6a & 6c CHASE ROAD, BURNTWOOD



- Two First Floor Offices
- 6a - 434 sq ft (40.34 sq m)
- 6c - 201 sq ft (19 sq m)
- Prominent Main Road Position
- EPC Rating D-100

RENT: 6a - £260 pcm. 6c - 450 pcm

INDUSTRIAL

BRINDLEYS BUSINESS PARK, CANNOCK



- Various units from 1,821 sq ft (169.21 sq m) to 2,626 sq ft (224 sq m)
- All have Office & WC Facilities
- Allocated Parking
- EPC Ratings Various

RENT: From £10,000 pax plus VAT

OFFICE

PENDRAGON HOUSE, RIDINGS PARK, CANNOCK



- Prestigious Ground Floor Office Suite Approx 1,025 sq ft (95.2 sq m)
- Open Plan with 3 Offices off
- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rating C-59

RENT: £8,200 pax plus VAT

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 4 CANAL VIEW BUSINESS PARK, RUGELEY



- Unit Approx 5,460 sq ft (507 sq m)
- Eaves Height Approx 19ft 6ins (6m)
- Office & WC Facilities
- Designated Car Parking
- EPC Rating C-55

RENT: £25,000 pax plus VAT

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Upper Landywood Lane
CHESLYN HAY



Immaculately Presented Four Bedroom Detached House / Large Plot 1/4 Acre in Size / Several Spacious Reception Rooms / Large Private & Secluded Rear Garden

£600,000

Rugeley Road
HAZEL SLADE



Spacious & immaculately presented four bedroom dormer style home / Highly desirable rural location of Hazelslade and backs directly onto Cannock Chase / Rear conservatory / Breakfast kitchen with utility

Offers in Excess of £425,000

Stafford Road
GREAT WYRLEY



Beautifully presented three bedroom detached family home / Private gated driveway / Extremely private & secure plot / Remote controlled gated entrance / Spacious living accommodation

Offers in the Region Of £365,000

Walsall Road
GREAT WYRLEY



Stunning character property dating back to the 1750s / Spacious five bedroom link detached home / Numerous reception rooms / Inglenook fireplaces / Exposed oak beams

£350,000

Sycamore Hill
CANNOCK WOOD



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£200,000	£4,320	£1,900	£2,420
£300,000	£6,480	£2,860	£3,630
£500,000	£10,800	£4,760	£6,050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @2.16% Inc VAT. Source: Rightmove (April 2017)



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RUGELEY



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NORTON CANES



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Dugdale Close
WIMBLESBURY



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Bradbury Lane
HEDNESFORD



Stunning three bedroom semi detached house / Finish to high specification throughout / Undergone extensive renovation & refurbishment / Good sized lounge / UPVC conservatory

Offers in Excess of £170,000

Fieldhouse Road
HEDNESFORD



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Spacious lounge & sitting room / Conservatory overlooking charming landscaped rear garden / Superb hot tub room

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Brooklyn Road
HEATH HAYES



Three bedroom semi detached house / Set down quiet cul-de-sac

£135,000

Whitby Way
CANNOCK



Well presented two bedroom semi detached house / Set on large corner plot / With front, rear & side gardens / Spacious lounge & kitchen-diner / Modern fitted shower room & driveway

Offers in Excess of £125,000

Knights Court, Bettys Lane
NORTON CANES



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£125,000

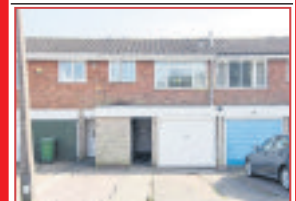
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MOTURING

New levels of luxury for flagship Range Rover

Land Rover has pulled the covers off an updated version of its flagship Range Rover SUV.

Called the Range Rover SVAutobiography, the refreshed model is available exclusively in long-wheelbase form, and is hand-finished by in-house customisation department Special Vehicle Operations.

According to the British manufacturer, the SVAutobiography has been designed to epitomise "the pinnacle of luxury travel". It features leather-upholstered

Legroom

Executive Class rear seats that offer 1.2 metres of legroom, a 40-degree recline capability, hot stone massage function, as well as heated calf and foot rests.

Back-seat passengers will also find electrically deployable tables and 10-inch touchscreen entertainment screens that provide 4G wifi.

The central console, which extends the length of the cabin, also features a refrigerator that can accommodate two wine bottles of four 600ml bottles.

There are three powertrains available: a 4.4-litre diesel V8, a 5.0-litre supercharged petrol V8 and a 2.0-litre petrol plug-in hybrid option.

Prices range from £167,850 for



The SVAutobiography has been designed to epitomise "the pinnacle of luxury travel"

the diesel, rising to £177,030 for the supercharged V8.

Gerry McGovern, chief design officer at Land Rover, said: "The Range Rover SVAutobiography is the epitome of luxury, comfort and

refinement. Our standard-bearer for quality and precision exemplifies the attention to detail and sophistication that has been a hallmark of our most luxurious SUV stretching back almost 50 years."



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Award-winning Ignis from Suzuki stable has few rivals

By John Griffiths

It's that time of year again: when motorists' minds turn to the possibility of snow, ice and mud on the school run or the daily commute.

The answer for some is a four-wheel drive, but some are big, expensive to buy and run and not that popular with environmentalists. So enter Suzuki, the Japanese firm which combines years of expertise in small cars and 4x4s, with its funky and practical Ignis.

It's a city car with a light weight but nonetheless impressive all-wheel drive system, which combines with some typical SUV elements which provide cabin space and visibility with which rivals can't compete. With prices from £10,499 to £14,499, a 9E insurance group and fuel consumption of some 60mpg, it's affordable too.

There are two and four-wheel drive versions, but the test car was a top specification SZ-5 version with four-wheel drive and a fuel saving 'mild hybrid' system assisting its 1.2 litre petrol engine. Plus a high level of kit and technology which makes the price tag look even more competitive.

The Ignis has funky and chunky looks, taking up no more space than a typical city car but it's significantly taller. That means plenty of head room for even the tallest, and a higher seating position which aids greater all-round visibility. It also contributes to the Tardis-like feel of the interior, with generous levels of legroom even for those in the rear. Boot space is a useful 204 litres, rising to 514 litres with the rear seats folded.

Allgrip

The interior is light and modern with a central colour touchscreen controller for ancillary functions.

The light 'Allgrip' system only diverts power to the rear wheels when needed – that is when it senses the driven wheels at the front are starting to slip. It's very smooth and you probably won't feel it's happening (except you don't get wheelspin even in tricky conditions). That saves fuel, and there's no need for the driver to switch to 4WD.

Plus it has grip control, which focuses torque on the driven wheels while braking those that are spinning, and hill descent control to keep the speed to a walking pace even on steep, slippery inclines. The Ignis also has higher ground clearance to allow for the occasional off-road foray – and it proved surprisingly competent during a test on muddy forest tracks in Wales.

The 1.2 litre engine is smooth and quiet, producing 90Ps of power and 120Nm of torque, enough in a car of this size to tackle the 0 to 60mph dash in 11.5 seconds. During acceleration it gets help from the electric motor of its hybrid system, which recharges during normal driving. The official fuel average is 60.1mpg but I was pleased with a 'real world' average of 52mpg over a week of mixed motoring. The CO2 rating is 106g/km.

The Ignis is light and agile on the road, its all-wheel drive system adding imperceptibly to its 'wheel at each corner' stability through the corners. Safety systems, apart from airbags, include a stability control and on top models a stereo camera system concealed behind the rear view mirror which detect potential hazards ahead – cars and pedestrians. This operates as a collision warning system, lane departure warning and a 'weaving alert' which warns a potential tired driver of erratic driving. The SZ-5 versions also have hill hold control.

All models have six airbags, air conditioning, front electric windows and stereo radio. Next up the SZ-T adds a smartphone link, rear view camera, roof rails, wheel arch extensions and two individual rear seats which slide backwards and forwards, as well as reclining. Top trim models (the SZ-5) have auto air conditioning, satellite navigation, electric rear windows and LED headlights.

The Ignis has won a number of industry awards since it's launch earlier in the year, with judges impressed by its combination of space, price, running costs and all-round capability. It's a car with few rivals.



The Ignis has funky and chunky looks

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Model shown: Baleno 1.2 Dualjet SZ3 petrol manual at £10,499 on the road (metallic paint available at £485); this price includes £2,000 customer saving. Baleno range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban from 46.3 (6.1) to 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban from 72.4 (3.9) to 78.4 (3.6), Combined from 60.1 (4.7) to 70.6 (4.0). Official CO2 emissions from 109g/km to 93g/km. Fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. **£2,000 customer saving available on SZ3 model only. £1,500 customer saving available on SZ-T and SZ5 models. Offer applies to UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man private retail customers purchasing and registering a new Baleno from participating Dealers. Offer subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time. †Price based on Baleno 1.2 Dualjet SZ3 petrol manual OTR (excluding metallic paint but including £2,000 customer saving). Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated. All prices, specifications and offer correct at the time of going to print. Terms and conditions apply, see cars.suzuki.co.uk. *SZ-T and SZ5 models only.

Model shown: Celerio SZ4 available from £10,149 on the road (metallic paint available at £465). Official fuel consumption figures for the Suzuki Celerio range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 53.3 (5.3) to 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban from 76.3 (3.7) to 83.0 (3.4), Combined from 65.7 (4.3) to 78.4 (3.6). Official CO2 emissions from 99g/km to 84g/km. Fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. **Based on Celerio 1.0 SZ2 Petrol Manual OTR price £7,499. Offers available only to private retail customers who purchase a new Suzuki Celerio through participating authorised Suzuki dealers using Suzuki Finance Personal Contract Purchase. *1 Year's Free Insurance offer is only available to UK residents, aged 21-29 at the start of the policy, who have resided in the UK for at least two years and held a full UK or EU driver's licence for at least 1 year. Terms, conditions and eligibility criteria apply. Suzuki Insurance is provided by Original Insurance Services Ltd and is underwritten by Allianz Insurance plc. 13 Years' Servicing offer is only available to UK residents aged 18+ and provides routine servicing for 3 years or 37,500 miles (whichever is sooner) including certain parts and labour. Servicing must be done by Suzuki franchised dealer/service partners at intervals specified by Suzuki. Suzuki Finance Personal Contract Purchase offer: Credit is subject to status and is only available to UK residents aged 18+ from Suzuki Finance, a trading style of Suzuki Financial Services Ltd, St. William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. Maximum 49 month term. All offers: Each offer (including Personal Contract Purchase) may be withdrawn or amended at any time without notice or prior warning and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated. For full terms and exclusions of 1 Year's Free Insurance and 3 Years' servicing offers, see cars.suzuki.co.uk/celerio-offers. Offer correct at time of sending to print.

*Suzuki Scrappage allowance enables you to receive up to £2,000 off the VAT inclusive price of the advertised new Suzuki models when you trade-in any make or model of passenger car, first registered in the UK on or before 31/12/2009 which has a Euro 1-4 emission standard engine. £2,000 off SX4 S-Cross, Baleno, Vitara and Swift models only. Offer excludes Celerio City and entry grade models. Retail customers only. Participating dealerships only. Offer subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time. Check with your local dealership for details. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated. Trade-in vehicle must have been registered in owner's name for minimum 90 days and new vehicle must be first registered with the same Registered Keeper details in the V5 document. Offer available in the UK only.

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MOTORING

Range of upgrades for ST, RS and Mustang

Ford Performance has released a range of upgrades for its go-faster Fiesta ST, Focus ST, Focus RS, Mustang and GT supercar models.

Revealed at the Essen Motor Show in Germany, the specially developed parts are all warranty-approved, and can be fitted at Ford dealerships by approved technicians.

Upgrades range from aesthetic tweaks such as customised gearshift lever knobs and lightweight alloy wheels to performance exhausts for road and track, and even a Roush Performance supercharger for the Mustang's 5.0-litre V8 that will boost power to around 600bhp.

Fabio Carafa, vehicle personalisation director for Ford of Europe, said: "Ford is synonymous with attainable performance. Ford Performance Parts will deliver even more satisfying driving experiences for enthusiasts.

"Ford Performance customers – some of the most competent and knowledgeable drivers out there – are telling us they want to further personalise the driving dynamics, performance and style of their vehicles. We've specifically developed our Ford Performance Parts portfolio to meet that need."

Also revealed in Essen was the Ford Performance Drift Stick concept, which was developed with help from rally and stunt driver Ken Block.

Designed for the Focus RS, this is an aluminium lever that sits between the driver's seat and manual gearbox. Paired with the car's drift mode, it allows the driver to perform clutch-free drift turns with a simple pull of the lever – similar to the experience of a rally car. It goes without saying the Drift Stick is only intended for track use.

Ford Performance upgrades are available to order from today.



Upgrades on the RS include lightweight alloy wheels



Performance exhausts for road and track are included



A supercharger for the Mustang's V8 that boosts power to around 600bhp



The Drift Stick, only for track use!

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Kia plug-in hybrids win two top green awards

Kia Motors (UK) Ltd. is delighted to announce two wins at the Next Green Car Awards 2017, with the all-new Niro Plug-in Hybrid (PHEV) winning in the crossover category and the all-new Optima Sportswagon PHEV winning in the estate category.

Both launched this year, the Niro and Optima Sportswagon PHEVs are another big step towards Kia's aim of reducing the average CO2 emissions of its entire range by 25 per cent, by 2020. The Niro PHEV can drive for up to 36 miles on electric power alone, whilst the Optima Sportswagon PHEV can travel for up to 38 miles in all-electric mode.

Next Green Car commented: "Kia is one of the market leaders in terms of PHEV electric range, and the Niro Plug-In Hybrid benefits from this focus. Throw in the fact that the PHEV technology is wrapped up in practical crossover packaging, and the Niro Plug-In Hybrid is expected to quickly climb the electric vehicle sales charts. For those wanting value-for-money motoring, practicality, and a plug-in powertrain, the Optima Sportswagon Plug-In Hybrid is one of the best options around. With a long electric range and load-lugging potential, Kia's Optima estate opens up PHEV models to many buyers that need a large car but with low running costs."

The wins this year follow on from a very successful Next Green Car Awards 2016, where the Optima PHEV was victorious in the Large Family Car segment. In this year's shortlist, the Picanto has also been commended in the City Car category.

Steve Hicks, UK sales director at Kia, said: "We are thrilled to have received these awards from Next Green Car. The Niro PHEV and Optima Sportswagon PHEV are great additions to both the Kia fleet and



Kia's all-new Optima Sportswagon PHEV won the estate category



The all-new Niro Plug-In Hybrid took the crossover category

the ever-growing UK alternative fuel market. Having this choice of Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles within the Kia range has enabled us to better meet our customers' changing needs – it's a very exciting time for Kia."

The Next Green Car Awards recognises the very best green cars

that are currently and soon-to-be available. The judging is based on a number of factors, but is focused on the Next Green Car (NGC) rating, based upon real-world emissions data. This ultimately aids the judges in identifying the greenest models available.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia range of vehicles are between Urban: 29.1 (9.7) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra-Urban: 46.3 (6.1) – 94.2 (3.0) and Combined: 38.2 (7.4) – 88.3 (3.2). The official CO2 emissions for the Kia range of vehicles are between 86 – 189g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Pictures for illustration purposes only and models shown may not be to UK specification. Selected vehicles include Scrapage savings available to private customers (excluding Personal Contract Hire) registering an all-new Picanto or all-new Rio between 1st September and 31st December 2017 at participating dealers in the United Kingdom, Isle of Man or Channel Islands. This offer is conditional to the scrapage of a vehicle, of any make, originally registered on or before 31st December 2010. There is no minimum retention period required. The scrapage saving is in lieu of all other offers. Only one scrapage payment can be claimed for each vehicle scrapped. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for full details. *Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. T&Cs apply. Subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. All offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. Details correct at time of publication, E&OE.



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MOTORING

Grand, Grandland X!

By Carmel Stewart

The Grandland X is an important vehicle for Vauxhall, completing as it does the company's crossover trio of SUVs which began with the mid-sized 4WD Mokka X, followed by the compact 2WD Crossland X.

You would be forgiven for thinking that the Daddy of the range was a robust 4x4 but, in fact, it comes in 2WD only with an optional electronic grip control which adapts the torque distribution for optimum traction, depending on which of the driving modes has been selected – normal, snow mud or sand.

Similar in styling to the slightly smaller Mokka X, the Grandland X has a robust stance, with accentuated wheel arches and a wide front grille with a sill plate below plus slim LEDs front and rear. A high waist and chrome highlights add an aerodynamic appeal.

Inside where there is space enough for five occupants, the driving position is elevated, the modern, well laid-out dash uncomplicated and the ambient lighting tastefully sufficient.

At the rear there is 514 litres of easy-load boot space which ups to 1,652 litres with the rear seat backs dropped down.

Engine choices are confined to two turbo units – a 1.2litre 130ps three-cylinder turbo petrol and a 1.6litre 120ps four-cylinder turbo diesel. Both can be combined



It's easy to get connected

with either a six-speed manual or six-speed automatic transmission. Selection will come down to personal preference, with the diesel returning an official average of 70.6mpg mpg and the petrol 54.4mpg on 17-inch wheels. More engine options will be added next year.

On the road there are no real highs or lows. The ride is comfortable, the cabin quiet, the engines more than adequate, although the suspension is not as all absorbing as some of its rivals.

The Grandland X, while not exciting to drive, is well put together with a very decent standard spec. It will deliver its occupants to their required destination in unruffled comfort but it is entering into a very tough SUV market place which has doubled in size during the past six or seven years.

Its rivals are long-established, so Vauxhall will need to sharpen its automotive elbows if it is to make



Grandland X has a robust stance, with accentuated wheel arches

an impact with this model. But the newness of the Grandland X can also be considered a plus as many buyers like to drive the latest model and it is following in the tyre treads of the increasingly popular Mokka X.

Its specification list includes all the driving aids of any self-respecting modern vehicle: automatic cruise control with pedestrian detection and automatic emergency braking, driver drowsiness alert, and advanced park assist plus the option of a heated steering wheel, heated front and rear seats and smart tailgate, that opens with a flick of the foot.

All that, oh so vital, fingertip

connectivity is also available through Vauxhall On Star, so you not only have automatic crash response alerting the emergency services should the airbags be deployed but can also book an hotel room, find a parking space and charge your smartphone wirelessly as well as access emails, phone messages, Google maps and the like thanks to the Apple CarPlay and Android Auto integration.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Grandland X Launch Edition 1.2 (130PS) Turbo Start/Stop: Urban: 44.1 (6.4), Extra Urban: 57.6 (4.9), Combined 52.3 (5.4). CO₂ emissions: 124g/km.[#]

Model shown Grandland X Launch Edition 1.2 (130PS) Turbo Start/Stop OTR £28,245. [#]Fuel consumption information is official government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU-regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Correct at time of going to press.

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Deaths

HARLEY
Colin
Sadly passed away at home on November 21, 2017, aged 61 years.
Colin was greatly loved and will be sadly missed by all his Family and Friends.
Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel, at 12 noon.
Flowers welcome, or donations if desired for Cannock Hospital Chemotherapy Unit Davy Suite.
Inquiries to

MOLLOY
Joseph Patrick (Pat)
Passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, aged 90 years.
Pat was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.
The Funeral Service will take place on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at St Mary's RC Church, Cannock, at 12.30pm, followed by a Burial at Stile Cop Cemetery.
Family flowers only please.
Donations, if so desired, for Multiple Sclerosis.
All inquiries c/o

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MINCHER
Eric
Late of Rugeley.
Passed away November 27, 2017 aged 87 years.
Reunited with Wife Marge also a beloved Dad, Grandad, Father-in-law and Friend.
All details from Funeral Directors.
The Funeral Care has been entrusted to
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ROTCHELL
Daisy May
Passed away November 16, 2017 aged 95 years.
In loving memory of my much loved Auntie.
Just to say thank you for being a big part of my life, you knew that anyway. I will always remember my childhood days spent with you, and all that you have done for me along the way.
I will miss you, but remember you always, with love and respect.
Rest peacefully now, you deserve it.
God bless and keep you safe.
Sue.
X X X
Auntie
Thank you so much for all the wonderful memories you have given us. You will be loved and missed every day.
Andrea, Steve, Aaron, Kian, Ewan and Fern.
X X X

ZOLLINO
June and Domenico
Mom and Dad
Congratulations on your Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
All our love
Julia, Stuart, Nino, Louie, Kevin, Claire, Aaron and Danny.
X X X

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REED
Ann
Passed away peacefully after a long illness, on November 25, 2017, aged 73 years.
The Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Thursday, December 14, at 10am.
Flowers or welcome or donations if desired, these will be given to Guide Dogs for the Blind.
God saw the road was getting rough, the hill too hard to climb, He gently closed her weary eyes and whispered peace be thine.
Loving Husband Alan.
Any further inquiries
CO-OPERATIVE FUNERALCARE
106 Hednesford Road
Heath Hayes
01543 495609.

ROTCHELL
Daisy
Two tired eyes are sleeping, two willing hands are still.
The one that did so much for us is resting at Gods will.
With fondest memories.
Anne, Edward, Nicky and Andrew.
X X X

ROTCHELL
Daisy
Passed away on the 16.11.2017, aged 95 years.
A dearly loved Auntie who will be remembered by Nephew Tony, Jayne and Family.

SPRIGGS
Ted
Also known as Charles
Passed away on November 18, 2017, aged 89 years.
Ted will be sadly missed by all his loving Family and Friends.
The Funeral Service and Committal will take place at Stafford Crematorium on Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 10.40am.
Family flowers only. Donations for the Air Ambulance in his memory will be gratefully received and a donation box will be available at the Service.
All are welcome to join the Family afterwards at The Littleton, Stafford Road, Huntington.
All inquiries to

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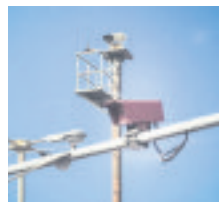
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4 Pets & Animals

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2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

6 Property

Overseas Property

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It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

TWO BED house to let, Willenhall, recently modernised, £520pcm. No Dss. 07830 429612.

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Ideally the candidate should:-

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To apply please contact Star Employment Services on 01902 319 333 or send CV to jobs@staremploymentservices.co.uk



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Saturday 2nd December 2017 in Cannock Town Centre 09.00am - 2.00pm
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9 Local Information

Public Notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

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(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

PUBLIC NOTICE



THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Case Officer - Audrey Lewis

Location: Land at 614 Watling Street, Norton Canes, Cannock CH17/425 - Demolition of existing structures and erection of roadside services (petrol filling station and drive-through coffee shop) with associated site works including car parking, modified vehicular access/egress and landscaping.

All applications may be inspected electronically at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected by paper file at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley.

The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.

If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 28/12/2017 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

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Public Notices

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED) ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991 DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC LOVE LANE, RUGELEY

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Love Lane in Rugeley at a point approximately 20 metres north west of the bridge unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Pedestrian access will be available.

An alternative route for traffic is not available. For more information, visit: <https://roadworks.org?tm=192530>.

The order will come into operation on 4 January 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 8 January 2018.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months, or until the installation of a sewer flow monitor within a chamber and testing of a unit works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance & Change,
No. 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Ref: 4092154 Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre Tel: 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders <http://roadworks.org>
Date: 7 December 2017

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)(ENGLAND) ORDER 2015 NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 15 (4) OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

I give notice that NRS Aggregates Ltd is applying to Staffordshire County Council for planning permission for:

a Application to vary conditions 1, 12, 13, 14, 24, 46 and 47 of planning permission SS.16/10/602 MW to deepen parts of the permitted extraction area and to confirm the working scheme details at Saredon Hill Quarry, Great Saredon Road, Little Saredon (Application Number: SS.17/10/602 MW)

b Variation of condition no. 23 (e) of planning permission SS.16/10/602 MW to allow additional two concrete mixer lorries to enter and leave the site outside of normal operation hours (single journey in at 06:00 and departure at 19:00 daily between 15/11/17 and 15/5/18 (Application Number: SS.17/11/602 MW)

The Case Officer who is dealing with this application is Graham Allen who can be contacted on 01785 277299

Members of the public may view the submitted application, plans and other documents via the Staffordshire Planning web page www.staffordshire.gov.uk/planning ('Find a current application').

Free internet access is available during all reasonable hours at:

- any Staffordshire library; or,
- Staffordshire County Council's offices, No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so no later than 19 December 2017 by:

- commenting on-line via the Staffordshire Planning web page www.staffordshire.gov.uk/planning ('Comment on a current application');
- emailing to planning@staffordshire.gov.uk; or
- writing (quoting the application number, providing their name, full address and post code, and marking the letter for the attention of the Case Officer referred to above) to Planning, Policy & Development Control, Staffordshire County Council, c/o 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH.

Please note: all comments and representations received in writing will be taken into account and are open to be read by all. For more details visit the Staffordshire Planning web page www.staffordshire.gov.uk/planning ('Applications' - 'Your data').

Signed: Darryl Evers

On behalf of Staffordshire County Council

Date: 28 November 2017

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED) ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991 DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC MOOR LANE, HAMLEY HEATH

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Moor Lane in Hamley Heath from the property called Rose Cottage to its junction with Newlands Lane unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Pedestrian access will be available.

An alternative route for traffic is available via Moor Lane, B5013 Uttoxeter Road, Sherracop Lane, Newlands Lane and vice versa. For more information, visit: <https://roadworks.org?tm=103775860>.

The order will come into operation on 9 January 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 15 January 2018.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months, or until the gas works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance & Change,
No. 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Ref: 4094841 Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre Tel: 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders <http://roadworks.org>
Date: 7 December 2017

10 Personals

Personal

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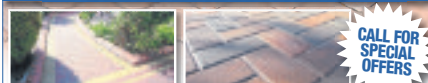
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Ofosu-Ayeh no closer to return, says Nuno

WOLVES head coach Nuno Espirito Santo has revealed Phil Ofosu-Ayeh is no closer to being considered for selection. The 26-year-old full-back joined on a free transfer in the summer after leaving German side Eintracht Braunschweig but is yet to play for the club due to an ankle injury.

It was thought last month that he could return before the end of the year, but his recovery programme has not gone as planned.

Nuno hinted the club may have to cut their losses if the situation does not take an upturn soon, and said: "It's tough. The programme that is being done with him is trying to increase his load of running. But he still has pain."

"We have to be very cautious, not only because of this particular injury, but the way that Phil - for the last year - has struggled."

"He needs to settle down and solve, definitely, the problems that he has. Then we have to make a decision."

Ofosu-Ayeh underwent ankle surgery in early September. Born in Germany, he represents Ghana and has one cap for them.

Bucks boss rules out a move for Lescott

FORMER England ace Joleon Lescott, a two-time Premier League winner, will not be signing for AFC Telford United, club sources have revealed.

The 35-year-old former Wolves, Albion and Villa defender is without a club after being released from Sunderland at the end of last season - and has trained with the Bucks.

After the signing of former Wolves striker Sylvan Ebanks-Blake, there was speculation that former Molineux favourite Lescott - who has also had spells with Everton, Manchester City and AEK Athens - would also end up at the New Bucks Head.

Telford boss Rob Edwards played with Lescott at Wolves but stated 'nothing will happen'. It is believed though that the Bucks chief is on the lookout for a defender.

The Birmingham-born centre-half played 26 times for England. He won two Premier League medals, the FA Cup and League Cup during five years at City - and won the First Division play-offs with Wolves in 2003.

Development work wins coach top award

A DUDLEY sports coach has picked up a top accolade. Rus Smith, who leads the development of trainers and coach developers in the Midlands for StreetGames, was named as the Coach Developer of the Year category at the 2017 UK Coaching Awards.

Recognised with him were the three coaches - Benke Blomkvist, Christian Malcolm and Stephen Maguire - who led Great Britain's men's 4x100m team to gold at the 2017 World Athletics Championships. They won the High Performance Coach of the Year award.

This year marked the 20th anniversary of the showpiece annual event, held at The Honourable Artillery Company, City of London, last Thursday.

Smith offers his services to the FA and the Stourbridge Football League. He has delivered to more than 1,000 learners in the last 12 months. He said: "What an honour to have been announced as Coach Developer of the Year."

Mark Gannon, UK Coaching CEO, said: "Rus is fully deserving of the Coach Developer of the Year award."



Georgia Baker in action. Pic: Scottish Swimming



Robyn Swatman, gold medal winner in the 13-15 figures

Swimming team in sync to make a competition splash

SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Maher

"The club has always been strong but we have seen a lot more people take an interest, particularly since the London Olympics."

TALENTED swimmers from Walsall Synchro Club have their sights set on national success after making a big splash in Scotland.

The club, who have their base at the town's Gala Baths, returned from the Scottish National Synchronised Swimming Championships with a haul of medals from both individual and team competitions.

Walsall won gold in the under-12s team event and also took silver in the 13-15 years team category.

Georgia Baker finished at the front of a competitive field in the solo under-12s competition.

She was followed onto the top step of the podium by England youth team members Olivia Baker and Robyn Swatman, who took the 13-15 years duet.

Competitive

Olivia Baker also took bronze in the 13-15 years solo event, while Georgia teamed up with Taliah Alves to win silver in the under-12s duet.

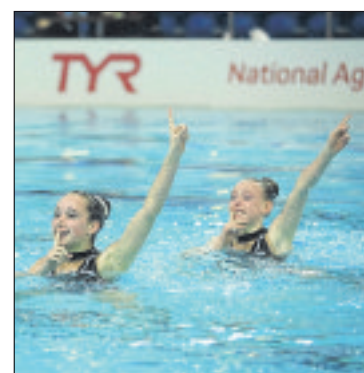
"The team did brilliantly in Scotland and got some really good results," said head coach Amy Baker. "It was particularly pleasing as the event attracts some of the biggest clubs in the country and the competition is fiercely competitive."

"For Georgia Baker to win the under-12s solo was a huge achievement. She is a swimmer with great potential."

Walsall's Scottish success followed a similarly strong showing in last month's Midlands Championships, held at their home pool. Alves won gold in the under-12s figures competition, with Georgia Baker winning silver to complete a one-two for the hosts in that category.



Medal winners from the nationals in Gloucester



Robyn Swatman and Olivia Baker's routine

The duo then teamed up to win gold in the duets event, with team-mates Katie Lopez and Olivia Timms taking bronze, while Walsall achieved a clean sweep in the 13-15 years figures with Swatman taking victory ahead of Olivia Baker and Hannah Birch. The latter combined with Olivia Baker to win gold in the 13-15 years duet.

Walsall also won big in the team competitions, with victories for the 13-15 years squad in the exercise and free categories and the 15-18 years team in the combination event.

The under-12s team won gold in the free competition while the Muppets squad, whose routine is choreographed to music from the TV show, claimed silver.

Walsall Synchro Club were formed in 1972 and currently have close to 100 swimmers on their books.

"The club has always been strong but we have seen a lot more people take an interest, particularly since the London Olympics," said head coach Baker.

"It's got to the point where we don't really advertise anymore. People come to me on an almost daily basis asking if their child can have a trial."

"Many have a background in dance or gymnastics and want to give synchronised swimming a go. At the moment we have some really, really talented girls at the club. Both

Olivia Baker and Robyn Swatman are part of the England squad at their age group and we are hopeful of getting a few more called-up should things go well at the nationals."

The success fuelled confidence ahead of the National Championships in Gloucester last weekend - and more medals followed.

Georgia Baker and Taliah Alves collected a silver medal in the 12 and under duets, with Olivia Timms and Kate Lopes back in ninth. Robyn Swatman and Olivia Baker collected a bronze in the 13-15s duets.

There was a silver medal in the 12 and under teams. The 13-15 team finished fourth out of 17 entrants.

Individually, Georgia Baker finished sixth and Taliah Alves eighth in the under-12s figures, from 130 competitors, Olivia Baker and Robyn Swatman, both only 13, ended 11th and 13th respectively, from 178 in the 13-15s.

In the solos, Georgia Baker narrowly missed out on third position in the under-13s, finishing just ahead of Talia Alves, Swatman and Olivia Baker finished eighth and ninth respectively.

Georgia, Taliah, Olivia Baker and Robyn were selected to attend Phase 1 of England trials held in Bristol on Saturday.

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Pitmen up to ninth thanks to late winner

Hednesford Town 2 Farsley Celtic 1
A BEN BAILEY goal 10 minutes from time saw Hednesford Town claim all three points and move up to ninth in the Evo-Stik League Premier Division.

In the first ever meeting between the two sides, the Pitmen made the perfect start when they were awarded a penalty in the third minute after James Fitzgibbon was fouled in the area.

Up stepped Danny Glover to confidently convert from 12 yards.

In what was turning out to be a lively opening, Farsley's Ryan Watson saw an effort blocked three minutes later before Joey Butlin almost turned home a second goal for the Pitmen.

Town ended the half on top as Butlin was denied after a mishit Matt Curley effort found its way to the striker before Fitzgibbon saw a shot just about stopped before the line in the 43rd minute.

The visitors drew level in the 54th minute when a low shot was blocked and, with everyone having gone the same way, Nathan Cartman was left with the simple task of firing home into an unguarded net.

Play switched from one end of the pitch to the other as both sides fancied their chances of three points.

Farsley substitute Adam Priestley almost made an immediate impact in the 75th minute, but his low effort clipped the post. Hednesford edged ahead five minutes later when a deep corner from Darren Campion picked out Bailey and the centre-half was able to turn the ball home from six yards out.

In-form Scholars win their fifth match in a row

Carlton Town 2 Chasetown 4
CHASETOWN recorded their fifth consecutive Evo-Stik League Division One South victory to move to the fringe of the play-off positions.

The Scholars took the lead after eight minutes when Will Whieldon curled in a free-kick and James O'Reilly stole in unmarked to plant a diving header beyond Jack Steggles.

Carlton levelled in the 25th minute after Danny Cocks was adjudged to have conceded a penalty, which Ben Hutchinson despatched, sending Curtis Pond the wrong way from the spot.

Chasetown responded immediately and Whieldon's effort from outside the box sneaked in at Steggles's near post.

The Scholars deservedly made it 3-1 when a defensive error let in Muzzy Nduna, who fired into an empty net.

The hosts were awarded a second penalty and Pond couldn't keep out substitute Aaron Hooton's spot-kick.

In the first minute of stoppage time, Chasetown sealed the three points after Jake Lovatt beat the offside trap and coolly slotted past Steggles.

History for Sporting after trying week



Tom Hill goes past the goalkeeper

WOLVES Sporting Community ended a difficult week with a 5-0 win over Shepshed Dynamo in the FA Vase – and travel to Northamptonshire for an historic last 32 tie.

Sporting face Cogenhoe FC on January 6 after routing Dynamo at the club's Great Wyrley home. Left-back Kyle Delaney scored a hat-trick with Dimitri Dunkley and Tom Hill also on target.

Sporting had never been beyond the first round before this season,

but are now just four wins from Wembley. And boss Andy Paddock has hailed his team's performance as one of the greatest in their history – just days after burglars raided their home ground.

The Hazel Lane outfit were rocked only six days earlier when the changing rooms at Pride Park were ransacked and £4,000 worth of damage was caused.

For Paddock and his players it was far from the ideal preparation

for their Vase clash against a team that play one step higher in the non-league pyramid.

But Paddock said: "It was the best performance I have had as a manager, certainly the best performance I have had in my time at Sporting and in my opinion one of the best performances in the club's history."

"It had been a tough week with the break in, but they showed a real desire and commitment."

Seven salvo after going a goal down

Cannock L2s 7 Worcester 1
CANNOCK ladies 2nds played a friendly against Worcester to finish the first half of their season. Cannock got off to a lethargic start, allowing the opposition to bring the game to them, resulting in them going 1-0 down.

However, this kick-started Cannock into passing the ball around and playing some good team hockey.

Cannock L3s 6 Dudley 3
The match started well for Cannock with two early goals and a solid team performance. After half-time the score went to 2-2 and then 3-3. However, quality striking from Vicky Wilkes saw Cannock go on to win 6-3.

Other results: Cannock L4s 0 Stone 2; Cannock L5s 0 Leek 3.

Cannock M3s 8 Edgbaston 1
It wasn't long before the first goal came from Cannock's Ed Martin followed soon after by Danny Swinnerton-Ions. Soon a third and fourth goal arrived, for returning Chris Darnley.

Another goal then came from Swinnerton-Ions, followed by one from James Griffiths. Chris Darnley calmly slotted home his third for the day.

Cannock M4s 1 Worcester 2
Worcester led 1-0 courtesy at the break. Cannock were much improved in the second half and equalised with a goal from Paul Martin but succumbed to a Worcester counter attack.

Elsewhere, Cannock M5s chalked up a 6-1 win at Old Wulfs, after putting the home side under pressure from the start.

FIVE SAIL AWAY WITH AWARDS



Bill and Margaret Boyson with HRH The Princess Royal



Kamila Czartolomna with award



Steve and Lynn Baker, of South Staffs Sailing Club

FIVE Staffordshire sailors have been rewarded for their outstanding commitment to their sport.

Steve and Lynn Baker, Margaret and Bill Boyson and Kamila Czartolomna were presented with RYA Volunteer Awards by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal.

The Princess Royal is president of the Royal Yachting Association, boating's national governing body, and the awards, considered the MBEs of the sport, were presented at a ceremony at

One Great George Street, London on November 24. The Bakers, from South Staffordshire Sailing Club and the Boysons, from Blithfield Sailing Club, received RYA Lifetime Commitment Awards, for individuals who have shown exceptional commitment and dedication to their club or organisation for at least 15 years.

Ambassador

The Bakers' club mate at Gailey-based South Staffordshire Sailing Club, Kamila Czartolomna, 17, collected an RYA Youth Award.

Kamila was described as a 'leading light' and an exceptional ambassador for her club and sport having, among other personal achievements, inspired a group of teenagers to become actively in-

involved at her club. She said: "I was quite shocked when I found out I'd won, I wasn't expecting it at all. I do what I do mainly just for fun, I really enjoy doing it."

All five recipients were nominated by their clubs and selected as winners by the RYA Honours and Awards Panel.

Alistair Dickson, RYA Director of Sport Development, said: "The ceremony was an excellent opportunity to celebrate the fantastic work our volunteers do to support boating activity in all forms throughout the UK."

Before the presentation, RYA CEO Sarah Treseeder presented Her Royal Highness with a pair of marine binoculars on behalf of RYA Members to mark her 30 years as president.

Football stalwart Dennis dies at 79

THE non-league football fraternity is mourning the death of Dennis Busby, aged 79. Dennis was a contributor to both the Express & Star and Sporting Star, reporting on the likes of Wolverhampton Casuals, Wednesfield, Ettinghall, Brereton, Bloxwich Strollers and Rugeley for more than 30 years.

Vice chairman of Wolverhampton Casuals, Paul Tudor, described him as 'passionate and involved'.

Dennis, who was diagnosed with oesophageal cancer, was on the committee for the Penkridge Charity Cup and organised annual matches to raise funds for local charities.

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